

## IN BRIEF

## Trump administration to close forest job training centers

The Trump administration announced Friday it will close two U.S. Forest Service job training centers in Oregon and Washington state.

The Timber Lake Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center in Estacada, and the Fort Simcoe CCC near Yakima, Washington, are two of nine facilities nationwide that will close.

The job centers offer programs in vocational fields like forestry and renewable resources, hospitality and construction. They offer no-cost vocational training targeting low-income, at-risk youth. The programs include room and board and some paid on-the-job training opportunities.

"Most of these students are students that have failed high school and have given up and dropped out," said Brian Hickman, who graduated from and works at the Timber Lake Job Corps in Oregon.

He learned about the decision to close Timber Lake Friday morning. Hickman is also the chief steward for the National Federation of Federal Employees, Local 1697.

The remaining 16 centers, which include Angell CCC in Yachats and Wolf Creek CCC in Glide, will no longer be operated by the Forest Service. They will be taken over by private or "partnership" contracts overseen by the U.S. Department of Labor.

— Oregon Public Broadcasting

## Oregon restricts solar development on prime farmland

As Oregon's climate policies steer the state toward renewable energy like solar, its land use laws are putting up roadblocks.

The Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission has approved new rules that restrict commercial solar development on millions of acres of high-value farmland across the state.

The rule-making process pitted two of Oregon's most treasured values — protection of agricultural land and environmental stewardship — against each other.

The conflict is especially intense in Willamette Valley wine country, where many vineyards are simultaneously embracing solar energy while opposing commercial solar development.

— Oregon Public Broadcasting

## Popular wilderness trail remains closed after wildfire

SALEM — One of Oregon's most popular wilderness trails will remain closed into the beginning of this summer, almost two years after a large wildfire closed it down in the Mount Jefferson Wilderness.

The Statesman Journal reported Whitewater Trail, the most common route to the popular backcountry campsites of Jefferson Park, had its closure order extended into August, the U.S. Forest Service said.

The trail was heavily damaged by the Whitewater Fire that burned in July 2017.

Crews worked last summer and fall to fix the trail but more trees died over the winter and spring, leaving a mess on the road and at the trailhead.

Detroit district ranger David Halemeier says crews need additional time to clean out the area before reopening it to the public.

— Associated Press

## Big low tides coming to the coast

The Oregon Coast is full of low-tide treasures — natural wonders and manmade objects hidden in the surf — but to see some of them you have to wait until the tide is especially low.

In 2019, the lowest tides will arrive during short periods at the end of spring and in summer, setting up good opportunities for tide pool explorers, beach adventurers and photographers. This year's lowest low tide events will occur from June 4 to 6, July 3 to 5 and August 1 to 2, according to predictions by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

— The Oregonian

## MEMORIAL

Saturday, June 1

DEEDER, Janet Eleanor (Olsen) — Memorial service at 12:30 p.m., Evergreen Memorial Gardens, 1101 N.E. 112th Ave. in Vancouver, Washington.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

TUESDAY

Astoria Library Board, 5:30 p.m., Flag Room, 450 10th St.

Seaside Airport Advisory Committee, 6 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.

Warrenton City Commission, 6 p.m., 225 S. Main Ave.

Astoria Planning Commission, 6:30, City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

WEDNESDAY

Astoria City Council, 2 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

Gearhart City Council, 6 p.m., special meeting, City Hall, 698 Pacific Way.

## On Memorial Day, remembering the ones who were lost



Photos by Katie Frankowicz/The Astorian

ABOVE: People gathered on Monday for a Memorial Day service at Maritime Memorial Park in Astoria, remembering men and women who have worked in maritime industries and, in many cases, died doing this dangerous work. TOP: Ruth Lomhoff, 92, attended to honor the memory of her grandson, a commercial fisherman.

## Wood gets to work early at Jewell School

## New principal at rural campus

By EDWARD STRATTON  
The Astorian

JEWELL — Jon Wood, selected in March by the Jewell School District as the new principal of the rural K-12 campus, is technically still director of programs for the Nyssa School District in Eastern Oregon through July.

That didn't stop Wood from coming in during a vacation to help Jewell secure federal grants worth about \$60,000 and start assembling a student handbook.

Wood used to work in Nyssa with Scott Phillips, who was recently named acting superintendent. Phillips took over for Alice Hunsaker, who the Jewell School Board barred from representing the school district after investigators found she worked without a license and failed to ensure the completion of employee evaluations.

Wood replaces Wendy Crozier, who was selected to fill out the school year for Terrence Smyth after

his resignation in March. Smyth, Hunsaker's significant other, has since been hired as the interim principal of Gresham High School. He and Hunsaker moved to the Portland area.

Wood has echoed Phillips' repeated pronouncements that Jewell has a lot of work ahead to improve chronically lackluster academic performance. But the school has capable students, as witnessed by the often award-winning band.

"Those are the same kids taking math tests, the same kids that are taking science and writing tests," he said. "And so there's no reason they can't be just as good there as they are with their instruments."

Jewell often has a harder time attracting staff to the rural campus nestled in the Clatsop State Forest. The school district needs to focus on empowering and building the skills of its existing staff with additional training, Wood said.

Shortly after he was hired, Wood sat down with Phillips to talk about what needed to be worked on.



Jon Wood

"I'm not the kind of guy to sit back and wait for that to happen, so we got to work," Wood said. "One of the first things we tackled was our title programs."

Wood manages federal programs for the Nyssa School District. He and Tera Van Dyke, Jewell's business manager, went to work catching the school district up on its applications for federal grants around teacher training, supporting low-income students and other student assistance. Getting the grants allows the district to reallocate about \$60,000, he said.

"It saves the general fund money," he said. "It provides special opportunities for the kids. It allows us to do things that are outside of the ordinary with kids."

He also noticed Jewell hasn't had a ratified student handbook since 2016. "It's really hard to hold kids accountable when there's not a policy in place," Wood said.

Wood, Phillips and Crozier have been combining the school district's and state student conduct poli-

cies in the hopes of putting a draft student handbook in front of the school board over the summer break.

Wood started as a science teacher 15 years ago. Five years ago, he became an administrator, first as vice principal of Nyssa Elementary School, and later as director of programs for the school district.

Nyssa, a city of 3,100 on the Snake River across from Idaho, enrolls about 1,200 students, compared to Jewell's average of less than 200. Agriculture drives the region's economy, compared to trees in Jewell, a timber-rich district.

Much of Wood's attention to federal grants comes from the demographics he oversees in Eastern Oregon, where about 60 percent of students are designated migrants.

"We get migrant funding, federal funding," he said. There's "a high English as a Second Language population there, so a big chunk of our general fund budget comes from those federal programs."

"But at the end of the day, it's not where you get your money," he said. "It's how you use it."

## National parks track visitor dollars

The Astorian

A new report shows 1.3 million visitors to national parks in Oregon spent \$94 million in the state last year.

Overall, that spending resulted in more than 1,000 jobs and a cumulative benefit to the state economy of \$133 million.

Nationwide, the National Park Service report found \$20.2 billion of direct spending by more than 318 million park visitors. The cumulative benefit to the U.S. economy was \$40.1 billion.

Oregon's North Coast contains one national park, the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park in Warrenton. The state's other national parks are Crater Lake National Park, John Day Fossil Beds National

Monument and Oregon Caves National Monument.

"The national parks of Oregon attract visitors from across the country and around the world," Stan Austin, regional director for the National Park Service's Pacific West Region, said in a statement. "Whether they are out for an afternoon, a school field trip, or a month-long family vacation, visitors come to have a great experience, and end up spending a little money along the way."

Lodging expenses accounted for the biggest chunk of visitor spending, about \$6.8 billion total in 2018 at parks nationally. Food expenses came in second at around \$5 billion between restaurants and bars and grocery and convenience stores.



Katie Frankowicz/The Astorian

Lewis and Clark National Historical Park is one of four national parks in Oregon.

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