

IN BRIEF

Damage to road closes Ecola State Park

CANNON BEACH — A sliding hillside has shut down the entrance road to Ecola State Park.

The park is closed until further notice, park officials announced Monday.

“We’re still evaluating the extent of the road damage and forming a plan for repairs,” Ben Cox, the park’s manager, said in a statement. “The land may continue to slide, too, so we’re being cautious.”

The damage — due to a sliding hillside beneath the road — occurred over the weekend on a section of road that has been repaired before. Efforts to shore up the section failed.

The gravel surface is uneven and unsafe, according to park officials.

Rangers escorted all visitors out of the park Sunday afternoon, but the slide also disconnected the park’s main water line, shutting off running water in the park.

One person displaced after RV fire in Seaside

SEASIDE — A fire destroyed an RV in Seaside on Saturday night, leaving one person displaced.

Seaside Fire and Rescue was called just before 9 p.m. after nearby residents noticed flames and smoke coming from the rear of the vehicle on S. Roosevelt Drive near Trucke’s 1 Stop Gas Station.

Both lanes of U.S. Highway 101 closed briefly while firefighters extinguished the fire.

The RV was unoccupied at the time.

Officials say the blaze was accidental and started as a result of water leak repairs the owner did earlier in the day.

Coast Guard rescues woman from cliff near Cape Falcon

The U.S. Coast Guard recovered an injured woman Saturday morning from a cliff at Cape Falcon near Manzanita.

A 30-year-old woman reportedly slipped off a trail while hiking and sustained several injuries.

A Coast Guard aircrew hoisted the woman from the cliff and she was flown to Nehalem Bay State Park, where they waited for emergency medical services.

— *The Astorian*

DEATHS

Feb. 9, 2020

DOTEN, Linda Elizabeth, 62, of Astoria, died in Astoria. Caldwell’s Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

KELLY, Patrick Martin, 77, of Warrenton, died in Warrenton. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

MEMORIALS

Saturday, Feb. 15

OLSON, Brian Herbert — Celebration of life at 2 p.m., Astoria Elks Lodge Ballroom, 453 11th St. It is a potluck for whoever would like to bring a dish. At Brian’s request, please

wear a riding jersey if you own one.

RIUTTA, Jeanette Marie “Sisty” — Service of remembrance at 11:30 a.m., Clatsop Retirement Village, 947 Olney Ave. Interment will be private.

ON THE RECORD

Forgery

• Shirley Marie Patterson, 41, of Seaside, was arrested Saturday on U.S. Highway 101 in Seaside for forgery in the first degree and theft in the second degree.

Trespass

• Melinda Dawn Harrison, 49, of Astoria, was arrested Saturday on Woodland Lane in Astoria for trespass in the second degree and attempted trespass in the first degree.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

TUESDAY

Clatsop County Planning Commission, 10 a.m., Judge Guy Boyington Building, 857 Commercial St., Astoria.

Lewis & Clark Fire Department Board, 6 p.m., main fire station, 34571 U.S. Highway 101 Business.

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

Clatsop Community College Board, 6:30 p.m., Columbia Hall Room 219, 1651 Lexington Ave., Astoria.

WEDNESDAY

Clatsop County Board of Commissioners, 6 p.m., Judge Guy Boyington Building, 857 Commercial St., Astoria.

Wickiup Water District Board, 6:30 p.m., 92648 Svensen Market Road, Svensen.

Astoria School District Board, 7 p.m., Gray School, 785 Alameda Ave.

Warrenton-Hammond School District Board, 7 p.m., Warrenton High School Library, 1700 S. Main Ave.

THURSDAY

Seaside Civic and Convention Center Commission, 5 p.m., Convention Center, 415 First Ave.

Gearhart Planning Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall, 698 Pacific Way.

the Astorian

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#TimberUnity pitches some alternatives to cap and trade

Activists met with the governor

By **SAM STITES and CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE**
Oregon Capital Bureau

SALEM — An Oregon activist group that opposes a state plan to clamp down on greenhouse gas emissions presented Gov. Kate Brown on Thursday with its own ideas of how to cut emissions.

Lawmakers are considering a proposal to limit and shrink the state’s greenhouse gas emissions. The bill — Senate Bill 1530 — would set up a marketplace for companies to buy and sell allowances, essentially permits to emit greenhouse gases.

#TimberUnity wants the state to plant trees along roads to act as carbon sinks and wants state government agencies to buy goods and services locally to reduce their carbon footprint. The group also wants Oregon to boost its recycling infrastructure and allow businesses to write off more quickly the costs of upgrading to greener technology.

The four-point plan was pitched to Brown and two staff members when they met with business owners associated with #TimberUnity for about 45 minutes, according to Kate Kondayen, the governor’s spokeswoman. The meeting occurred against the din of speeches and truck horns outside the Capitol.

One of the people representing #TimberUnity was Julie Parrish, a former Republican legislator. According to Parrish, the meeting was genial.

“The conversation was exclusively on climate policy,” Kondayen wrote in response to written questions from the Oregon Capital Bureau. “The governor



Julish Parrish, a former Republican legislator, speaks at the #TimberUnity rally at the Capitol on Thursday.

#TIMBERUNITY WANTS THE STATE TO PLANT TREES ALONG ROADS TO ACT AS CARBON SINKS AND WANTS STATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO BUY GOODS AND SERVICES LOCALLY TO REDUCE THEIR CARBON FOOTPRINT.

shared what she had heard from her previous conversations with them and others: that protecting rural jobs and communities was critical, and the governor agrees with that. She described in detail the changes that were made to SB 1530 to accommodate that concern.”

Kondayen said the governor is reviewing #TimberUnity’s proposals.

Mike Pihl, president of the Timber Unity Association, said the group doesn’t want the pending legislation to carry an emergency clause, legal craftsmanship which makes a new law go into effect immediately and forestalls a referral to voters.

Proponents say the legislation could still go through

the initiative process and move to the ballot, but allows the state to start laying the groundwork to get the program started on time.

State Sen. Michael Dembrow, D-Portland, a lead architect of the greenhouse gas bill, said he and #TimberUnity are “very aligned” on the notion of planting trees along the roadway, and have a shared interest in urban forestry and using urban trees for lumber.

“I’d have to look at the specific proposals in detail, but I think they’re a distraction from the larger issue,” Dembrow said. “I think the argument ... (they’re) trying to make is that we shouldn’t be doing broad climate action, we should be focus-

ing on these things as alternatives. I don’t see these as being mutually exclusive by any means. This greenhouse gas initiative is a platform and umbrella that’s going to be joined by a number of complementary programs.”

Parrish said that while Brown didn’t commit to making any changes in the cap-and-trade policy being proposed, she thanked them for presenting solutions.

“We’re going to continue to try to push on the belief that you can address carbon without taxation,” Parrish said. “The bottom line, at the end of our meeting, we asked, ‘Do you want to raise revenue, or do you want to fix carbon?’ If you want to raise revenue, we’re going to have a problem. If you want to fix carbon and hear these solutions, we’ll come to the table with you to address them.”

Parrish and other supporters of #TimberUnity feel that the mechanism for regulating fuel importers effectively taxes all Oregonians.

The Oregon Capital Bureau is a collaboration between EO Media Group, Pamplin Media Group and Salem Reporter.

Hearing on climate bill draws big crowd

Citizens express concerns, support

By **ANDREW SELSKY**
Associated Press

SALEM — So many people flocked to the Oregon State Capitol to testify Saturday at a public hearing on a climate change bill that the allotted time for each to speak was reduced to 90 seconds.

As a large screen in Hearing Room C showed the seconds ticking off, loggers expressed concern that the bill would lead to increased costs and the demise of their business. Others, taking turns at occupying three seats before the Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources, said global warming was an emergency that was already affecting them and would affect their children and grandchildren even worse.

“Rather than passing the buck, and demanding that the rest of the nation and world take care of us, we have a moral obligation to address our emissions,” Alan Journet, who lives in Jacksonville, a town of 2,700 in southern Oregon, said in written testimony on behalf of 1,500 rural Oregonians who are members of a group called Southern Oregon Climate Action Now.

The so-called cap-and-trade bill calls for the state to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to at least 45%



Andrew Selsky/AP Photo

People testify Saturday at a public hearing in the Oregon State Capitol in Salem on a controversial climate change bill.

below 1990 emissions levels by 2035 and to at least 80% below by 2050. The bill would force big greenhouse gas emitters to obtain credits for each metric ton of carbon dioxide they emit. Opponents say fossil fuel companies will wind up offloading increased costs to customers.

“Applying a carbon tax to Oregon citizens is a poorly disguised strategy to extract huge sales tax amounts from residents,” Nolan Nelson of Eugene said in written testimony ahead of Saturday’s hearing.

At least 150 people signed up to testify, many showing their positions on

T-shirts. Opponents often wore Timber Unity shirts. The group on Thursday staged a protest outside the Capitol, with a procession of trucks blasting their horns, to protest the bill.

A demonstration in support of the bill, with an expected attendance of over a thousand, is planned for Tuesday at the Capitol, according to Renew Oregon.

“Opponents of climate action in Oregon had their day, now it’s advocates’ turn,” said Brad Reed, group spokesman.

Backers of the measure, including many students, wore shirts to Saturday’s hearing saying “Clean energy jobs,” and “I’ll be 30 when my climate fate is sealed,” a reference to some predictions that a tipping point may be reached in a few years.

Proponents of the bill say the climate crisis will affect everyone as it gets worse.

NASA says that in the absence of major action to reduce emissions, global temperature is on track to rise by an average of 10.8 degrees Fahrenheit, citing the latest estimates.

“Because climate change is a truly global, complex problem with economic, social, political and moral ramifications, the solution will require both a globally-coordinated response (such as international policies and agreements between countries, a push to cleaner forms of energy) and local efforts on the city- and regional-level (for example, public transport upgrades, energy efficiency improvements, sustainable city planning, etc.),” NASA says on its climate website.

Seaside Elks Annual Crab Feed!
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