

Forum from 1A

environment and public safety. The biggest disagreement came when Brown was asked about Oregon as a sanctuary state.

Brown said, "I appreciate this is a fact where reasonable people can disagree."

"Oregon is a sanctuary state. In 1987, the legislature passed a bill prohibiting our law enforcement agencies from treating undocumented immigrants as criminals by virtue of their status as undocumented immigrants. The legislature

did that at the time because they wanted to make sure that the farmworkers that were here picking our grapes, strawberries and beans could continue to contribute to economy. I added to that by signing an executive order that prohibited all state employees from treating undocumented immigrants as criminals by virtue of their status."

Cries of "illegals" and "illegal aliens" punctuated her speech.

Brown asked for respect as she finished her statement.

"I signed (the order) because I didn't want state

employees treating undocumented immigrants as criminals. Oregon is a state of immigrants, and we are also a state of indigenous people. I want us to continue to remain a welcoming and inclusive state for all," she said.

At that point, about half of the attendees cheered and applauded.

One issue that came up several times during the forum was revenue reform.

The governor said, "State government funds basically three things: we do education, incarceration and medication."

She said this year's budget includes a \$1.6 billion deficit, due in part to the cost of healthcare, the requirements of PERS "to keep promises to Oregon's retirees" and ballot measures passed in November.

Brown also said that balancing the budget required cuts that she knew were necessary, but were very difficult.

Local business owners Lisa Walter-Sedlacek, of Laurel Bay Gardens, and Jennifer Waggoner, of R & R King Logging, told Brown that their businesses could not support continued increased fees and taxes.

"We pay a cumulative tax rate of 66 percent, when you add all our taxes together," Waggoner said. "Between the tax rate, worker's comp, the over-regulation of Oregon businesses — and specifically logging — and all that we strive to do to meet our local community's needs, we can't

pay more taxes. The margin is too small."

Walter-Sedlacek asked why the state couldn't consider a sales tax.

Brown said Oregon voters consistently vote down a sales tax.

"My question for voters is, are you ready for revenue reform in the State of Oregon?" the governor asked.

Brown also heard comments about Elliot State Forest, the 93,000-acre forest southeast of Reedsport in Douglas and Coos counties.

"There was no decision made to sell the Elliot. I made it very clear and came to the decision that the Elliot should remain in public ownership. Public lands should remain in public hands," Brown said.

She also said that the state plans to implement a sustainable level of logging on the land, with protections in mind for the fish and wildlife who are part of the ecosystem.

The environment again came up as people asked about President Trump's plans.

"In terms of our response to the Trump administration, what I would say is that future generations will judge us not on the fact of global climate change, but on what we have done to address it," Brown said.

She said Oregon will continue to take measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, move away from fossil fuels and lower energy consumption.

Education, and specifically school funding, were the last of the big topics.

Brown said she views education as the elevator that lifts communities up. She went back to her checklist: an excellent school for every child, good paying jobs in communities where youth grow up and access to healthcare for everyone.

"We need adequate and stable revenue on the table. That would enable us to fund schools at the level that you would like to see," she said.

Then Brown echoed a statement she made throughout the event, "It's going to take more work."

One man said, "I would also like to encourage everyone to come up with solutions. This one person cannot answer all the questions."

The governor's office has a phone line designated for constituents' concerns and comments. Brown invited attendees to call 503-378-3111 or send an email via www.governor.oregon.gov.

"We have a very active constituent services team that will respond to you if you have a specific idea or suggestion," Brown said. "What I love about Oregon is we are truly a state of entrepreneurs and innovators, and you are so right. I can't do this alone. Mayor Joe can't do this on his own. ... This is definitely a team effort."

Brown heard about some of the teams involved with

Florence on her economic development tour earlier on Tuesday. During a conversation with Oregon Regional Accelerator and Innovation Network (RAIN), she heard about ways new startups are getting support from the City of Florence, The Ford Family Foundation, Oregon Pacific Bank, Lane Community College and other partnerships.

On Wednesday, RAIN launched its first coastal Pre-Accelerator in Florence to assist seven entrepreneurs as they launch, expand and improve their businesses.

Special Guest Speaker Charles Wilson spoke about his venture to bring Cricket Flour into the traded sector, and the best way people can fill a need — in his case, for high-protein, low-gluten flours and snacks created from crickets.

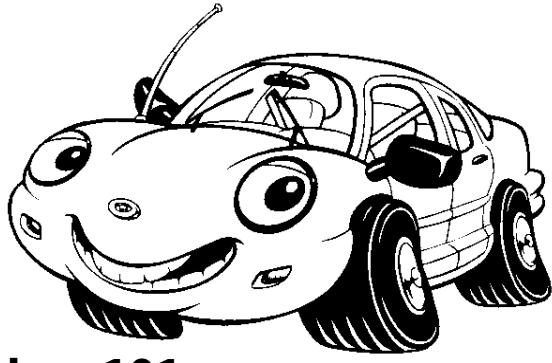
The purpose of the evening was to learn about pitching ideas or products, something Florence and its representatives got to do with Brown and her staff.

"I'm falling in love with this little town," Brown said. "We just really appreciate everything you're doing to move this city and the region forward. ... I look forward to working with you as we make this region a place where everyone can thrive and open the doors of opportunity."

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Lens from 1A

will be here with their volunteers helping us. ... A lot of people are volunteering their time and donating products to make this event a success," Anderson said.

Other supporters include Taylor Sausages, who will provide hot dogs; NW Adventures Quest, who will shuttle guests from the parking lot to the lightstation; and Destination Events, who will be bring a popcorn machine and hot dog roller.

Scheduling the birthday party is one of the first steps Anderson is taking in increasing the options available to visitors to the bed and breakfast and to the central coast in general.

"Our Bed and Breakfast is a 'Bucket List' adventure for a lot of our guests. So I want to package all of these types of adventures together," she said. "So we can say to our visitors, you can go for a horseback ride on the beach or go for a helicopter ride along the coast, and all of these things tie in perfectly with what we are doing

in this area."

Heceta Head Lightstation uses a lens developed by Augustin Fresnel in 1822. It uses the refractive properties of light to dramatically increase the intensity and throw distance of the light's beam. This made the Fresnel Lens the perfect fit for the Oregon coast.

At the time of the lens's purchase, it was the most expensive single element of the construction, and it took more than a year from the time the lens was purchased until it was delivered.

Originally, the lens was powered by oil lit lamps but these were upgraded to electricity in 1939.

The Heceta Fresnel Lens is still considered an amazing accomplishment of engineering. It is composed of eight panels with 24 sections which are made up of 392 2-inch prisms. It is 12 feet tall with a six-foot diameter and weighs just over six tons.

For more information on the Lighthouse Birthday Party, call Misty Anderson at 866-547-3696 or email keepers@heceta.lighthouse.com.

Moorage from 1A

"Any vessel engaged in maritime trade, the fishery, or carries passengers for hire."

Criteria No. 5 would allow Leskin discretionary latitude in granting commercial rates. As an example, Leskin described having recreational or live-aboard vessels purchase a \$50 tuna permit and then claiming to

be a commercial fishing vessel.

"We have found that people are 'gaming' the system," Leskin said.

Buckwald suggested dropping the fifth criteria.

He then added, "Why don't we just say 'The port manager in his or her sole discretion shall determine what constitutes a commercial or historic vessel'?" Strike it. That is unacceptable to me."

Leskin replied, "The port commission's responsibility stops at the policy level."

Buckwald and Duman took umbrage with Leskin's comment.

Duman said, "If (the vessel) has a commercial license, or are permitted by the state or federal, they are a commercial vessel."

Leskin replied, "Just because somebody goes out and spends

\$50 or \$100 for a vessel to get a commercial discount is not a commercial vessel. Otherwise you get people who are gaming rules. I'm trying to avoid people gaming the rules."

Commissioner Nancy Rickard asked, "Where does the manager's discretion come? Are we telling the manager every little thing he can do?"

Duman said, "No, we are going to tell him one time, by this resolution here."

Leskin returned to the original issue.

"We know there are people who get their commercial discount and never leave (the dock). All they have done is get a 40 percent discount on their moorage," he said.

The commission voted four to one to approve the resolution, excluding the provision to give

the port manager final discretionary authority to determine if a vessel was actually a commercial vessel.

Rickard voted against the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m., but then reopened when it was pointed out that the second public comment segment had been overlooked.

After a woman complained about her difficulties in paying her moorage fees, Leskin read a report that was written recounting the events from the port staff perspective.

Several vulgar terms purportedly used by the woman's husband were explicitly recounted in the letter.

Leskin said that he wrote the individual a letter saying that if the person ever treated the port staff this way again, Leskin would terminate his moorage agreement.

"I will not let staff be treated like this," Leskin said. Leskin also said that this was just one of many incidents that have occurred.

Duman then launched into a five-minute monologue of his dissatisfaction with the way port staff and Leskin were treating moorage customers.

"It's pure discrimination." Duman said. "I don't care how much authority you think you have, if it isn't in the policies or ordinances, don't assume it. You take our policies and ordinances and you enforce them."

He concluded by saying, "We can just eliminate all the boats. It's going to happen anyway."

Florence City Councilor Ron Preisler attended the meeting and said, "The port meeting this week was a good example of how not to have a public forum. There was extreme disrespect shown by most of the commissioners, audience, and port manager. Sadly there were two high school students present."



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