

# Construction starts on interchange project

Cottage Grove city engineering staff held an onsite pre-construction meeting with Milroy Golf Systems, Inc. to kick off the interchange landscape and irrigation project.

Milroy was on-site to start construction of the irrigation system this week.

The project is expected to be completed by the end of September.

Once the project is completed, the city will have an additional 15 acres of land to irrigate using treated effluent from the Cottage Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant.

## OPEN from A1

Others will win \$10,000 prizes — with one winner in each county in Oregon. Oregonians age 12 to 17 have a chance to win one of five \$100,000 Oregon College Savings Plan scholarships.

In addition, several counties added their own extra incentive drawings, for a total of 134 prizes.

The state's more than 2.3 million vaccinated people must now wait for a call to see if they are a winner. The lucky winners will be notified by phone within the next week and Brown will announce the winners soon after.

Brown's newest order rescinds executive orders 20-66, 20-22, 21-06, 20-28 and 20-19, all addressing the COVID-19 pandemic, healthcare access and schools. The "Safe and Strong Oregon" orders authorized Oregon's statewide mask mandate and the county risk level system, including restrictions on businesses and other sectors for physical distancing, capacity limits, closing times and more. Some statewide mask requirements may stay in place in specialized settings following federal guidance, including airports, public transit and health care settings.

"Brighter days are ahead,"

Brown said. "We are more determined than ever to make sure we ground our state in a strong recovery that reaches every single Oregonian. Our work is not done, but we can all take a moment to celebrate that by next week, we will be moving forward, together."

In addition, rescinding the executive orders for K-12 schools, higher education and childcare will mean a shift to a more traditional, local decision-making model for communities when it comes to serving the health and safety needs of students and children. The Oregon Department of Education and the Oregon Health Authority will be issuing updated, advisory guidance for the 2021-22 school year this summer, with plans to ensure a return to full-time, in-person instruction in the fall.

Schools will still be expected to comply with long-standing regulations around the control of infectious diseases, and to have a communicable disease management plan. Brown's June 25 executive order will continue the state's emergency declaration for the limited purpose of supporting the state's

# Harpies seek local writers

The Harpies, a writing group based in Cottage Grove, plan to put together an anthology of local authors, scheduled for publication in early 2022.

Short stories and essays should be a maximum of 2,000 words. Poems should be a maximum of 50 lines. Up to three poems may be submitted.

The deadline for submission is Aug. 15, 2021.

Submissions are open to South Lane County residents age 16 and up. Digital submissions are preferred. Hard copies will be accepted at the Harpies Anthology, c/o The Bookmine, 702 Main St., Cottage Grove, OR 97424.

All submissions are eval-

uated by the Harpies and all writers will be contacted by Nov. 15, 2021, whether a submission is accepted for publication or not.

For more information, check the website [www.cgharpies.com](http://www.cgharpies.com).

Please send additional

questions, concerns and submission to [cgharpies@gmail.com](mailto:cgharpies@gmail.com)

Lane Council of Governments (LCOG), located in Eugene, Oregon, is hiring for the following positions:

Senior & Disability Services:  
Administrative Aide (Spanish bilingual preferred) (Eugene or Cottage Grove)

ADRC Specialist

Adult Protective Services (APS) Specialist (bilingual preferred)

Case Manager (Eugene or Florence)

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Senior Connections Area Coordinator

Senior Meals Site Coordinator (Eugene and Springfield)

Government Services:

Associate Planner

Transportation Marketing Assistant

Full time with full benefits package. For more information about these and other positions, go to [www.lcog.org/jobs](http://www.lcog.org/jobs).



## Local Journalism Sustainability Act

117<sup>th</sup> Congress

Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick & Rep. Dan Newhouse

America's Newspapers supports the passage of the Local Journalism Sustainability Act.

The Local Journalism Sustainability Act is a bipartisan bill that provides a pathway to financial viability for local newspapers, be them in print or online, through a series of three tax credits. Such publications were already facing financial hardships prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, which have only worsened over the last year.

### Local Newspaper Subscription Credit

This credit will grow publications' subscription bases by incentivizing Americans to subscribe to local newspapers.

- Five-year credit of up to \$250 annually.
- Credit covers 80% of subscription costs in first year and 50% in subsequent four years.
  - o To receive full \$250 credit, a subscriber would have to spend at least \$312.50 in the first year, and \$500 each of the following four years.
- Credit can be used with non-profit publications if the publication is the non-profit's primary activity.

### Local Newspaper Journalist Compensation Credit

This credit will provide publications the ability to hire more dedicated local news journalists to improve their newsroom coverage.

- Five-year credit of up to \$25,000 in first year and up to \$15,000 in subsequent four years.
- Credit covers 50% of compensation up to \$50,000 in first year, and 30% of compensation up to \$50,000 in subsequent four years.
- Journalist must meet a minimum of 100 hours of work per quarter to qualify as an eligible employee.

### Local Newspaper and Local Media Advertising Credit

This credit will provide small business financial flexibility to spend on advertising in local newspapers and media.

- Five-year credit of up to \$5,000 in first year and up to \$2,500 in subsequent four years.
- Credit covers 80% of advertising costs in first year and 50% in subsequent four years.
  - o To receive full \$5,000 in first year and \$2,500 in subsequent four years, a small business would have spent at least \$6,250 and \$5,000 respectively.
- To increase flexibility, small businesses may utilize this credit to advertise with local television and radio stations, in addition to local newspapers.

### Definition of Local Newspaper

For the purposes of this bill, local newspaper is defined as a print or digital publication if:

- The primary content of such publication is original content derived from primary sources and relating to news and current events.
- Such publication primarily serves the needs of a regional or local community.
- The publisher of such publication employs at least one local news journalist who resides in such regional or local community.
- The publisher of such publication employs not greater than 750 employees.

### Definition of Local News Journalist

For the purposes of this bill, local news journalist is defined as an individual employed by a local newspaper who:

- Regularly gathers, collects, photographs, records, writes, or reports news or information that concerns local events or other matters of local public interest.

To review cosponsors from the previous (116<sup>th</sup>) Congress, [click here](#). Please contact [Ben.Owens@mail.house.gov](mailto:Ben.Owens@mail.house.gov) with Rep. Kirkpatrick's office, or [Aaron.Larson@mail.house.gov](mailto:Aaron.Larson@mail.house.gov) with Rep. Newhouse's office, with any questions.

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