

Clatsop college tuition to increase \$3 per credit

Tuition at Clatsop Community College will increase \$3, effective summer term 2018.

The college's Board of Directors voted 6-1 in favor of the increase at their Tuesday night meeting.

"We have come out of the financial crisis the college went through and we need to be responsible to students and the college to not put ourselves in that situation again," board member Robert Duehmig said.

"As much as I hate an increase that affects student costs, we need to be able to keep the services and remain sustainable."

Board members debated the need to make community college affordable for students while maintaining fiscal sustainability.

No one wanted to see a repeat of the financial crisis the college went through in 2012, which caused substantial layoffs and reduction in services for students.

Without a small increase now, there's a possibility the college would need to impose a much larger tuition increase in the near future that would impact students harder.

The tuition increase as necessary, college President Chris Breitmeyer told board members, but he's working on ways for students to offset the cost of the increase. Some of those options are to use financial aid money for lower-income students to cover the increase, and looking at ways to lower textbook costs.

The state should pay more attention to the work being

done at community colleges and better fund those efforts so there isn't a need to pass increases onto students, said board member Tessa Scheller, who said she was reluctantly voting in favor of the increase.

Rosemary Baker-Monaghan cast the sole vote in opposition.

The \$3 increase translates will provide \$75,000 in revenue that can grow exponentially and offer better fiscal sustainability for the college, said JoAnn Zahn, the college's vice president of finance and operations.

The increase brings tuition from \$99 to \$102 per credit. The college last raised tuition in 2014 by \$1, from \$98 to \$99 per credit, to fill a gap left by state funding.



Senior Moments with Emma Edwards

When in doubt, eat pie first

My iPhone is truly an amazing tool that can evoke all kinds of emotions into my day, especially when I zero in on the weather.

I'm following weather in 19 locations and, would you believe, Tuesday of this week there was rain for only our area and Auburn, Wash.? As children we used to say, "No fair."

My husband always encouraged our six kids and me to focus on the good of a situation, especially if it were something we had no control over. So why am I complaining about everyone except two of "us" having rain on a given day?

I really don't know, but as Popeye used to say, "I yam what I yam and dat's all I yam!"

So what's my point? As seniors, we have learned that life is just what it is. I've observed that most of us complain less and tolerate more.

Often, I speak of the many advantages of being a senior. I realize "life isn't always a bowl of cherries." But I would stand on both my feet to defend the oft heard statement that the meaning of life is 10 percent what happens to you and 90 percent how you react to it. Obviously, we cannot change the inevitable.

I firmly believe that attitude takes precedence over our life! Did you read the wisdom of Mayor Henry Balensifer's column last week? He spoke of the "unprecedented growth" in our area in the past 10 years. Then he went on to speak of Warrenton's "cornucopia of shopping and dining choices and building of more housing."

I'm not sure about you, but I'm thankful, especially as a senior, to be living in that cornucopia of activity. I know of a gentleman nearing the age of 80 who drives over every morning to check on the progress of whatever is being built or remodeled at the moment. It gives him great joy to share.

Maybe we are greener with all that rain. What can we do to cheer ourselves up once we feel we've had enough rain?

Several of us eat our pie before our meal and that reminded me of the "If I had My Life to Live Over Again" essay written by Erma Bombeck in the last days of her life (where she said she would have eaten her pie first).

I've done that and I must say it gives one a very liberating feeling! I do believe we seniors are less apt to lose control if our attitude stays in check.

I can totally identify with a Dr. Seuss thought when he instructs his readers to "Don't cry because it's over Smile because it happened."

Many of us enjoyed the wisdom of Dale Carnegie over the years. I like the way he sums up life situations by saying "If you want to conquer fear, don't sit home and think about it. Go out and get busy."

I can't resist adding that you should also go to senior lunch on Mondays and Thursdays at the Warrenton Community Center. You may enjoy sitting with Mayor Balensifer, who is determined to be there whenever his busy schedule permits.

Remember, the controls are in your hand!

This Week in Aboriginal History

by Carl A. Ellis

Sen. Ben Nighthorse, a Northern Cheyenne, is born

April 13, 1933: Ben Nighthorse Campbell, a Northern Cheyenne, is born in Auburn, Calif. He will become a judo champion, a jeweler and a U.S. senator from Colorado (1993-2005). For a time, he was the only American Indian in Congress.

April 14, 2007: The Morongo Indian reservation in Southern California and its 775 adult members reportedly received roughly \$15,000

to \$20,000 per person, per month in casino profits. Twenty years earlier, the tribe's average annual household income was \$13,000.

April 15, 1879: Thirty Apaches escape the Army camp at Ojo Caliente, N.M., and eventually return to Mexico.

April 16, 1550: Charles V, king of Spain, orders a stop to Indian land conquests.

April 17, 1683: A representative of Pennsylvania purchases several tracts of land near Schuylkill from the Delaware Indians, according to some sources.

April 18, 1818: Andrew Jackson defeated a force of Indians and African Americans at the Battle of Suwanee, ending the First Seminole War.

April 19, 1991: Mississippi Choctaw voters reject a referendum to allow disposal of manufacturing waste products on land near the reservation that the tribe proposes to purchase and lease for the landfill.

Ellis is an author and historian working on a book about American Indians.

Learn more about aboriginal history at [facebook.com/snippetsintime](https://www.facebook.com/snippetsintime).

Senior lunch menu

Monday, April 16: Roasted pork loin, mashed potatoes and gravy, red cabbage, coleslaw, chocolate cake.

Thursday, April 19: Cajun stew with ham and shrimp, rice, mixed vegetables, romaine salad, berry trifle.

The Warrenton senior lunch program is at noon (doors open at 10:30 a.m.) Mondays and Thursdays at Warrenton Community Center, 170 SW Third St. Suggested donation is \$5 for ages 55 and older; \$7 for those younger. For more information, call 503-861-3502.