



New ideas for unsafe mix of man and beast

By CINDY YINGST
The Columbia Press

Human impacts on elk – and vice versa – have caught the eye of Gov. Kate Brown. “I am designating the Clatsop Plains Elk Collaborative as an Oregon Solutions project and appointing Warrenton Mayor Henry Balensifer and Seaside Mayor Jay Barber as the project co-conveners,” Brown wrote to local mayors, including Gearhart Mayor Matty Brown on April 26.

Oregon Solutions is a state entity tasked with developing “sustainable solutions to community-based problems” through the collaboration of business, government, and nonprofit groups.

Local leaders have been trying to find solutions for the elk problem, which has been growing since there are few predators, plenty of open space and favorable conditions for making more elk.

There are so many elk they cause vehicle collisions, show aggressive behavior
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Above: A tourist takes a selfie with a bull elk (posted on the website Reddit).



Left: A cow elk and calf walk through Ocean View Cemetery in Warrenton.

Cindy Yingst

School district hires new-campus manager

By CINDY YINGST
The Columbia Press

Construction of the district’s new middle school took a leap forward Wednesday night with the hiring of a construction management company to oversee the process of building a new middle school.

“I think it’s hands down the best process to use for this,” said Greg Morrill, vice chairman of the Warrenton-Hammond School Board and president of Bergerson Construction.

The board and school administrators will receive a steady flow of information and be involved as the ultimate supervisors in the process.

“There will be a lot of eyes looking at this from at least

three different directions,” Superintendent Mark Jeffery told them. “You will be well informed to make decisions throughout this process.”

R&C Management Group of Yamhill won the management contract for \$947,500, the bid out of three that was most reasonable and best-aligned with district goals for the new campus, which will be built south of Walmart.

The board also approved a contract with DLR Group of Portland for design services. The company was deemed best of the four design firms that submitted bids.

In addition, the board approved issuing requests for proposals from companies to fill five more positions: arbor-

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In their own words: Sunset Empire Transportation District candidates talk about the issues

The Position 1 seat

Tracy E. MacDonald
Incumbent, Seaside

Age: 68

Length of time here:
39 years

Occupation:
Retired medical transport, Medix, area administrator; PNW Key Club (Kiwamis); Home Depot, Warrenton.

Education: Transit planning certificate from Santa Ana Community College, Santa Ana, Calif.; graduated from Crater High School in Central Point, Ore.

Community and political involvement:
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Larry Taylor
Astoria

Age: 66

Length of time here:
19 years in Astoria, native-born Oregonian

Occupation:
Retired, but I work as a parliamentarian

Education: master’s degree in architecture and urban design, U.C.L.A.; bachelor’s degree in computer science, U.C. Irvine

Community and political involvement: Worked on the restoration of the Fort George mural in 2001, co-founded

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The May 21 vote

The May 21 Special Districts Election includes school districts, water districts, ports and other entities.

Last week, The Columbia Press featured contested seats on the Port of Astoria Commission and Clatsop Community College District board. If you missed those profiles, please see them online at thecolumbiapress.com.

On page 3 inside is a profile on Clatsop Care Center Health District Position 5 candidate Cyndy Enterline. Her opponent declined to be included.

The Position 5 seat

Lylla Gaebel, incumbent
Warrenton

Age: 73

Time here:
20-plus years

Occupation:
Retired

Education:
PCC Telecommunications certificate

Community involvement and experience: Currently serve as a Sunset Empire Transportation District commissioner; Warrenton City Commission; Clatsop County Commission; Volunteer at Columbia River Maritime Museum; Volunteer at Clatsop County Animal Shelter;
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Debbie Boothe-Schmidt
Warrenton

Age: 64

Time here:
27 years

Occupation:
Trial assistant for the District Attorney’s Office

Education:
Associate’s degree, Academy of Business College, Phoenix

Community involvement and experience: My husband and I have owned a small business in Astoria for 17 years. I know the ups and downs of a business. I know what it is like to deal with employees and budgets, security
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