

Eagle Scout honored for his volunteerism

Joshua Lewis, an Eagle Scout in Boy Scout Troop 509 of Warrenton, was honored Monday for his volunteer work.

Some of his scout activities include painting handicap spots at the Warrenton Post Office, repainting a church's parking lot, collecting food for the needy with local firefighters, putting memorial flags and wreaths out at the cemetery on special occasions, and helping the local VFW with its buddy poppy program.

Josh also passes out hand-crafted ornaments at Christmas and serves as a leader and mentor for the younger scouts.

He's also a volunteer at the local food bank, plays music at his church, and runs the sound system at the church.

He has maintained his National Honor Society status with a 4.07 grade-point



average this year and is a member of the Warrenton Cross-Country team.

Those honoring him during a meeting at the local Masonic Lodge were VFW Senior Vice Cmdr. Allen Anderson, Judge Advocate Dale Pack,

Regional Scouting Chair Carl Anderson, Post 10580 Scout Chairman Bert Little, Masonic Gateway Lodge 175's Senior Warden Brad Horn, and Warrenton City Commissioner Mark Baldwin (not pictured).

Vaccines, surveys, tests and more COVID news

Clatsop County Public Health released a brief anonymous online COVID-19 community survey in English and Spanish earlier this month.

"It's been more than two years since the pandemic started and we want to get a pulse on how our community feels about COVID-19, vaccines and boosters," said Margo Lulich, interim public health director.

Lulich encourages each family member to separately take the survey, which will take three to five minutes to complete.

The last day to complete the survey is Monday, May 30. Survey results will be shared with the community.

ELECTRONIC VACCINE CARDS

The state is offering free electronic vaccine cards, which include the same information that's on the paper cards many already keep in their wallets.

Having an electronic card is optional and the state has no

plans to make it mandatory.

The card is available in 13 languages. More information is available at myelectronicvaccinecard.oregon.gov.

HOME TEST KITS

A second round of COVID at-home test kits are available.

Every household in the United States is eligible for eight more free kits, which will be delivered by the U.S. Postal Service in two separate packages.

Request them at COVID.gov/ tests.

ORAL THERAPIES AVAILABLE

Oral COVID-19 antiviral therapeutics Paxlovid and Molnupiravir are available for at-risk residents who test positive and experience mild to moderate symptoms.

Both therapies have been shown to reduce the risk of hospitalization. Paxlovid is available to those 12 and older; Molnupiravir is for those 18

and older.

Both therapies are available at Columbia Memorial Hospital pharmacies in Astoria and Seaside; Rite-Aid pharmacy in Warrenton carries the Molnupiravir therapy.

The therapies are only available by prescription. Those without a primary care provider or medical care home should contact their local urgent care clinic.

BOOSTERS

Drive-through clinics for those seeking their COVID-19 booster shots will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays at Camp Rilea south of Warrenton.

Moderna and Pfizer first or second boosters only will be allowed and the shots are by appointment only.

To sign up, call 503-325-8500.

Each person in the vehicle must have an appointment.

County hires new health director

Clatsop County has a new public health director, Jiancheng Huang.

Huang brings more than 20 years of experience in public health work and administration, most recently as director of the Oswego County Health Department in New York.

Huang is expected to assume the post in early July.

"I am honored to be chosen as the next Public Health director of Clatsop County," Huang said. "When I came for the job interview, I was moved by the county department heads' and department staff's energy and passion for their professions. I was impressed by the community's enthusiastic involvement in local public health."

He replaces Margo Lulich, who has served as interim public health director since March 2021. Lulich, who'd directed the department prior to 2013, stepped into the top post last year following the departure of former director Mike McNickle.

Huang obtained his medical



Huang

degree from Shanghai Second Medical University in China in 1987, and a master's degree from Harvard School of Public Health in 1993.

Previously he worked as a clinical research specialist with the Scheie Eye Institute at the University of Pennsylvania, as an epidemiologist with the Maine Bureau of Health, and as director of the Maine Immunization Program.

"We are so fortunate to have someone as experienced and knowledgeable as Dr. Huang come in and lead the Clatsop County Public Health team," Board of Commissioners Chair Mark Kujala said. "His background in public health is impressive and his passion undeniable."

The department has a staff of 20 and an annual budget of \$4.9 million. Services include maternal and child health, immunizations, reproductive health, health promotion, communicable disease response and environmental health.

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