

Federal grant helps fund North Coast tsunami disaster preparation studies

Model for communities, river traffic

By Edward Stratton
EO Media Group

A federal grant will help model the effect a tsunami would have on coastal communities and commercial traffic in the Columbia River.

The \$354,241 from the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program is aimed at projects to help prepare the coast for a disaster. Oregon has received \$4.6 million from the grant program since 2009.

“We wanted to figure out what the impact of a maximum tsunami would have as it travels up and inundates the Columbia,” said Jonathan Allan, a coastal geomorphologist with the state Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.

The project is meant to



A federal grant will help model the impact of a tsunami on the Oregon Coast.

help understand the interaction between tsunamis, tides and river flows.

“That will help us figure out where ships should evacuate,” Allan said. “If you’re in the estuary, your best option might be to evacuate upriver in a local event. You won’t have time to go out to sea.”

The state finished tsunami run-up models for the Oregon Coast in 2013. The new grant

funding will allow researchers to put the data into a more useful format for coastal communities, showing the public how quickly waves will arrive at different coastlines and estuaries.

“We need that information to figure out how quickly it’s going to take people to evacuate from their homes to high ground,” Allan said. “From the wave arrival times, we can

extrapolate how long it will take to reach safety.”

Researchers are also trying to account for potentially failing bridges and other infrastructure and the impact it will have on people’s courses and evacuation times, Allan said.

Previous grants have funded signs on U.S. Highway 101 telling people when they are entering or leaving a tsunami hazard zone, along with evacuation maps in areas with high foot traffic. Clatsop and Tillamook counties already have the signs. The new funding is meant for Lincoln and Lane counties, Allan said, with the hope of more than 300 signs along the Oregon Coast by 2020.

“Oregon’s vision is for coastal residents and visitors to be fully prepared for and resilient to Cascadia Subduction Zone tsunamis,” State Geologist Brad Avy said in a news release. “This federal grant funding is critical in continuing our progress toward that vision.”

Thompson fires back to allegations over expenses

By Jack Heffernan
EO Media Group

Clatsop County Commissioner Lianne Thompson is resisting a call for her resignation, vowing to be a strong and motivated voice and declaring: “My heart is in this place.”

Board Chairman Scott Lee urged Thompson to resign after a meeting last week in which she was criticized by commissioners for claiming thousands in travel and education expenses, as well as for a June incident with a county employee that led to an internal investigation.

“I have little interest or patience with those few people who would find validation in power or who like to see themselves as big fish in small ponds,” Thompson, who represents South County, wrote in a letter to The Daily Astorian.



Lianne Thompson

“No one said it would be easy to serve,” she said. “No one promised that a closed system would be open to change, that entrenched powers would not push back, or that personal

attacks would never supplant honest debate. Certainly I never expected such a political panacea. To see it play out in real life, however, can either be disheartening or motivating. I choose motivation.”

Before and after the Oct. 25 meeting, commissioners Sarah Nebeker and Lisa Clement, along with Lee, chided Thompson repeatedly. Thompson wrote in the letter that she would address commissioners’ specific complaints against her at the board’s Nov. 8 meeting.

One issue centered on a June incident in which Thompson allegedly placed her hands on a county employ-

ee — who has not been named — after a Red Cross meeting at Fort Clatsop. Immediately before that, she said she “was the only commissioner on the board who worked.” After making contact, she allegedly asked in a loud, frustrated tone, “Do you know what he did,” in reference to County Manager Cameron Moore. She continued by claiming Moore intentionally scheduled a meeting in May so she would not be able to attend.

An internal investigation concluded she was acting in her role as commissioner at the time and violated board behavior policy.

Presentation on former Gov. McCall at history center

Join the Cannon Beach History Center and Museum for a free meeting of the museum’s membership. Don’t miss this rousing, funny, and spirited presentation on Governor Tom McCall by Kick Ass Oregon History’s Doug Kenck-Crispin.

Originally from Spokane, Washington, Kenck-Crispin came with his family in 1982 and settled in North Portland.

Kenck-Crispin is the resident historian for the podcast “Kick Ass Oregon History.” He has been featured in Imbibe and Portland Monthly magazines, OPB’s “Oregon Experience,” “Think Out Loud,” “Weekend Edition,” and the season premiere of Esquire TV’s “Best Bars in America.”

He has written for Portland Monthly, Street Roots newspaper and the Willamette Week. In addition, he hosts various historical speaking series, field trips and historical tours — across the state — that connect people with Oregon.

Kenck-Crispin will be talking about Governor Tom McCall in celebration of this year’s 50th anniversary of HB1601 McCall Beach Bill. McCall is known by many as the man who kept Oregon’s beaches open to the public, but he was so much more. He was an environmental governor, war hawk, republican, documentarian, and politician.

Start off happy hour with a pint of Fort George on Saturday, Nov. 18, at 5 p.m. at the Cannon Beach History Center and Museum. The museum is a private nonprofit located at the corner of Sunset and Spruce in Cannon Beach, Oregon. This event is free and open to the public. For more information call 503-436-9301, visit cbhistory.org or find them on Facebook. Check out their Facebook page. The museum posts daily historic images and information.

OBITUARIES

Susan Pastor Cannon Beach

March 19, 1938 — Oct. 16, 2017

Artist extraordinaire Susan Pastor died Oct. 16, 2017, at her home in Cannon Beach, with her husband and cherished cats by her side.

She was born on March 19, 1938, in Kearney, Nebraska, to Claude Saunders and Idarose Prell Saunders. The family moved to California when she was a child. She attended Pepperdine University on an art scholarship but, in her words, was “coerced” into the more practical major of education. Like her mother, she became a school teacher and taught elementary school in Southern California.

Seeking a change, she moved to Oregon where she found “beauty and heaven” in Cannon Beach. She met her soulmate Dave Pastor, and they were married on June 3, 1976. She was the concierge for Hallmark Inn for 25 years.

A versatile artist, she mastered many techniques, from trompe l’oeil to whimsical. She painted landscapes, abstracts, still life and portraits. Her work is remarkable for its detail and realism. Her mural of a bamboo garden on a wall outside Haystack Resorts is so realistic that people have tried to walk into it. She created several murals for Hallmark Resorts in Cannon Beach and Newport. Her paintings hang in local restaurants and the Cannon Beach Liquor Store and the Etc. store she owned with her husband.

Any object became art: art deco lamps, a bronze mannequin, sea critters on gutters, a pebble-inlaid fish on the driveway. She was known for her town- and seascapes of her beloved town, and her portraits of local personalities, including lamplighter Jay Schwehr and artist Bill Steidel.

Her last painting was of her husband, napping. She encouraged unsung local artists by creating “Hidden Talent” Art Events to showcase their talents. She was a member of the Labor Day Spelunkers Party. For nearly 42 years, Susie and Dave made it a point to have Sunday dinner at the Driftwood restaurant.

Susie is survived by her husband of 41 years, Dave; her daughter, Julie, and her husband, Nick Sandoval; son, Bruce Billington; stepson, Paul Pastor; two grandsons; three step-grandchildren; and her sister, Shirlee Ann, and her husband, Kent Rogers.

At her request, there will be no services. Her ashes will be spread in the Pacific Ocean.

Susie loved animals and would appreciate any memorial donations to Clatsop Animal Assistance, P.O. Box 622, Warrenton, OR 97146.

Look up to see her latest works, as Susie continues to paint among the clouds.



Susan Pastor

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