

Missing caption created wrong impression

Editor:
I'm embarrassed that the picture of solar collectors accompanying my article in Living Green 2010 got printed without the caption I submitted with it. It was supposed to say, "Local architect Tom Ayres' solar electric and hot water installations on the coast have proven their effectiveness in this climate." The absence of the caption made it appear that this was a project of mine, while my intention was to give credit to other architects in the community who have been doing innovative solar work for decades.

Tom Bender
Sustainable Architecture and Economics
Nehalem

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks, Tom.

The Citizen regrets the omission.

Green with appreciation

Editor:
Your "Living Green" publication is outstanding. Your layout and design man, John Bruijn, and the editorial coordinator, Michael Burkett, deserve a big congratulations on a job well done. I enjoyed reading every article and the advertisements. Also, Walt Trandum's articles are always uplifting and a fun read. Thank you, Walt, for the many memories you stir up in my bag of experiences.

Since the "Golightly Gourmet," Dana Zia, published the birthday cake recipe, I am inspired to bake such a wonderful cake. I wonder, who I will give it to?

Juana Del Handy
Nehalem

Wash and Bake sale a splashing sweet success

On behalf of United Paws' volunteers, I should like to thank US Bank tellers for the car wash and bake sale they organized April 17 to benefit United Paws' spay, neuter, and adoption programs.

I should also like to thank bank management for allowing us to hold the fundraising event in their Tillamook parking lot.

US Bank employees and United

Paws volunteers raised an impressive \$510 for animals in need in Tillamook County, a staggering sum considering the weather did not cooperate!

Also, a big thank you to all those who stopped by for a cookie and a car wash. It is so gratifying when local enterprises support the work of United Paws to alleviate and prevent animal suffering in our community by organizing fundraisers for us.

Christine Watt
United Paws Co-Founder

More NBR fire stations?

Editor:

While the case has not yet been made for why we should build more fire stations, there was no mention of the funding source for the buildings or the cost of the real estate associated with the project. Does the recent tax hike cover the costs of has a generous benefactor stepped up? If not, it looks like we will be crating additional debt. While we sincerely value the services of our fire and safety personnel, draining tax dollars to construct unnecessary buildings is a misguided use of limited funds.

How can it be that in a sparsely populated rural community, in a rain forest, that has fire stations in place every 2-3 miles already, now needs even more fire stations? The proposed new fire station is located a mere half mile from the old one, and further from the beach. It defies a rational person's understanding.

It appears that the newly hired staff is jumping the gun to get this unnecessary project going. The elected board is correct to question not only the size of the buildings but the project in its entirety. The grandiose size of the proposed buildings is mind-boggling. Nest, NBR will want big, million dollar fire trucks to

fill those big buildings driving further into debt.

The thoughtful citizens of our community deserve plenty of time to examine the worthiness of the project. The excuse is given that it is cheaper to build now. Pardon me but it is never economical to spend money on projects that aren't necessary.

A colossal act of hubris is taking place in our midst. The trusted stewards of our tax dollars ought to be prudent, courageous and wise, and stop this foolish misuse of public funds.

Linda Ballar
Manzanita

Editor's note: As previously reported by the Citizen, the cost of the new proposed central fire station property is \$181,000 and the substation property, near Mohler \$75,000. The cost of new station and equipment is funded solely by property tax dollars approved by voters in November 2008.

Something's got to give

Editor:

I found myself chuckling out loud when I read the editorial about wind power in the last issue of the North Coast Citizen. Too bad the topic is so serious.

I chuckled ruefully in response to, "There also is room to question how well the economics of wind energy would pencil out in the absence of government subsidies incentives and tax breaks."

There is no energy source that has been developed in the U.S. that doesn't already have subsidies, incentives, or tax breaks. Even superficially benign hydropower that gives us the cheapest electricity on the continent (while decimating salmon)



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