



INSIDE
More flooding
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Tillamook

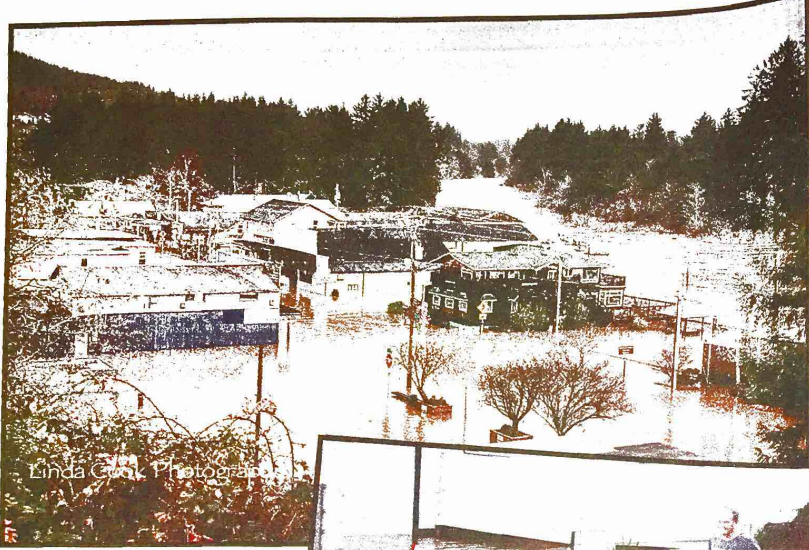
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Linda Clark Photograph



Headlight Herald Photo/ Brad Mosher

10-year flood arrives early



See VIDEO at TillamookHeadlightHerald.com

Headlight Herald Photo/ Chelsea Yarnell

State of emergency declared for 13 counties including Tillamook

By Chelsea Yarnell
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On Dec. 10., Oregon Governor Kate Brown declared a state of emergency to exist in 13 counties, including Tillamook, because of high winds, flooding and landslides.

"Heavy rains and wind have required the evacuation of residences, and mudslides and high water have severely damaged or blocked major roadways in these areas of the state," Gov-

ernor Brown said. "The emergency declaration ensures state resources, emergency response personnel, and equipment can be activated to respond to communities in need if their local resources are exhausted."

This declaration is based on the recommendations of the Oregon Office of Emergency Management and comes at the request of local officials; the Tillamook County Commissioners were among those requesting the declaration.

The Board verbally declared a state of emergency in Tillamook County on Dec. 9 and formalized the order the morning of Dec. 11.

"This was prepared several days ago in the height of the

emergency," Chief of Staff Paul Levesque said on Dec. 11. "The Board was unable to have a meeting at the time. Today is the meeting at which we can formally adopt the order."

The Commissioners called for the state of emergency to be for Dec. 8-9.

"Tillamook County has exhausted its resources and request additional resources from the State of Oregon as needed to help respond to the event," the Board's declaration read, stating that there was a need for additional help because the conditions are a "clear and present danger to the property and safety of

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Morgan Kottre's neighborhood experienced devastation during the Dec. 8-9 storm in Tillamook. A GoFundMe page has been created for their benefit.

Funds sought for destroyed property

By Chelsea Yarnell
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Morgan Kottre created a GoFundMe page on Dec. 10 to help save her neighborhood from devastation created from a recent landslide.

"Our neighborhood consists of two dead-end roads, located on a hillside," the GoFundMe page says. "It started with a crack in the road, that occurred sometime on Monday [Dec. 7]. By Tuesday morning, the cracks had grown and spread. The majority of the cracks are/were in front of our next-door neighbors Bob and Dee's house and driveway, which is the first house on the upper road."

"By that afternoon, it became clear that it was going to get much, much worse. There are two homes and a small barn situated downhill from this mess."

The GoFundMe page is set up with a goal to raise \$100,000 and \$12,792 has already been donated as of publication date.

"Honestly, we believe it will cost much more than the goal of \$100,000," Kottre writes. "Engineers and geologists will need to be hired to figure out the safest way to calm Mother Nature. They will bring in big expensive drills and take core samples. This process alone will cost at least \$5k."

"This GoFundMe is, figuratively and literally, a lifesaver. If we can stabilize this hillside, we can save our homes. A minimum of three

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Emergency

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the citizens of Tillamook County."

In addition to unanimously voting to declare a state of emergency, the Board of Commissioners are voted

unanimously approved an order Authorizing Emergency Procurement of Public Contracts.

"There's extensive damage in the County to public

infrastructure," Levesque said. "Liane [Welch, Public Works Director] and her crews have been working almost non-stop since this incident began. There is

more emergency response work to be done than the com can keep up with. So, it going to be necessary that lot of this be put out in the private sector under con-