



## UConn comeback, droughts end, Duke chokes again

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## SERVING THE CITY

### Councilor Vanessa Nordyke makes case for being Salem's next mayor

**Whitney Woodworth**  
Salem Statesman Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK

*This is part of a series of stories on the candidates running in the May 19 primary election. Ballots will be mailed to voters April 29.*

Vanessa Nordyke wants voters to know she's done the work needed to be Salem's next mayor.

"When I look at candidates who are running, I like to see: what legwork did they do?" she said. "Do they understand the issues? Have they read our budget?"

Nordyke, Salem's Ward 7 City Councilor, is running against incumbent Mayor Julie Hoy in the May 19 election.

Nordyke said she's been involved in advocating and working for a better community for decades.

"I've served on four different city boards and committees, including the Salem Youth Advisory Commission

when I was a high school kid at South High and three other city boards," she said.

A longtime Salem resident and former assistant attorney general with the Oregon Department of Justice, Nordyke now serves as the executive director of CASA of Marion County, a nonprofit organization that advocates for abused and neglected children in foster care. She was the youngest elected president of the Oregon State Bar in 2018.

Nordyke was appointed to the City Council in 2019 following Sally Cook's resignation due to a loss in her family. Nordyke was elected the following year. She ran unopposed in 2024.

Since taking office, Nordyke said she's been a long-time champion of a mobile crisis team to respond to behavioral health and substance use calls.

Seeing the city of Salem and Marion County come together to form the Rapid Engagement, Assessment and Community Health team, also known as REACH,

See **NORDYKE**, Page 2A

Ward 7 City Councilor Vanessa Nordyke is running for Salem mayor. ABIGAIL DOLLINS / STATESMAN JOURNAL

## UO fined for hazardous waste violations during \$96M renovation

**Tracy Loew**  
Salem Statesman Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has fined the University of Oregon \$21,900 for hazardous waste violations stemming from a renovation at its Eugene campus in January 2024.

The Heritage Renovation project involved restoring Villard Hall and University Hall, two of the oldest surviving academic buildings in Oregon, at a cost of about \$96 million. The site is one of 17 National Historic Landmarks in the state.

The project generated lead-containing hazardous waste, DEQ said in its enforcement order. The university failed to conduct an accurate hazardous waste determination on two waste streams, failed to properly label containers of hazardous wash water and offered waste for transport by a subcontractor without a hazardous waste manifest.

DEQ also cited, but did not fine, the university for failing to train employees and personnel on

See **WASTE**, Page 10A



People go on a sunrise hot air balloon ride at Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival on March 30 in Woodburn. ABIGAIL DOLLINS / STATESMAN JOURNAL

## See blooms at Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival

Salem Statesman Journal

The Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival in Woodburn is open now through April 26. The festival opened March 20 and the Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm said peak bloom is expected in the first two weeks of April. The festival features hot-air balloon rides, wine tastings, a children's play area, wooden-shoe carving demonstrations, food and other vendors. Tickets are required to visit and are available on the farm's website.

**HAPPY Easter!**

Jesus said unto her, "I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."  
John 11:25

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