City holds open house on revitalization of Bond Street

The Daily Astorian

The city of Astoria will hold an open house 4:30 to 6 p.m. Tuesday at City Hall for residents to share their thoughts about the revitalization of Bond Street.

The city is conducting a study to expand the Astor West Urban Renewal Area. The potential expansion includes a section of Bond Street that would fund the reopening of the street to two-way traffic.

In addition, the city could potentially assist residential property owners with making improvements to revitalize the neighborhood and preserve affordable housing.

Attendees are invited to share ideas for calming traffic on the street and new or renovated housing opportunities.

They will also have a chance to:

• Learn more about the slide area above Bond Street and the types of street improvements planned;

 Meet neighbors and share ideas for how to improve the Uniontown Neighborhood:

 Find out about potential funding opportunities to fix up their property;

 Ask city staff about other potential projects in the Uniontown area such as the new "Extreme Makeover" Storefront Improvement Program for West Marine Drive businesses.

The Astoria Planning Commission will hear a presentation at 6:30 that evening from city staff on this project, and consider the Urban Renewal Area Plan and Report.

If the Planning Commission recommends approval, the City Council will hold a hearing and first reading of an ordinance to approve the boundary expansion.

For more information, visit the project website www.astoria.or.us/projects. Or contact Community Development Director Kevin Cronin at keronin@astoria.or.us or 503-338-5183.



Lyra Fontaine/The Daily Astorian Owner Jason Johnson at a ribbon-cutting for Tonquin

Tonquin Trading store set to open in Seaside

Gear for hiking, backpacking, preparedness

By LYRA FONTAINE EO Media Group

SEASIDE — A new outdoor apparel business in Seaside has a tie to local history. its name was inspired by the Tonquin ship owned by John Jacob Astor, who established the Fort Astoria fur trading post in 1811.

A year and a half ago, owner Jason Johnson relocated to Oregon from North Dakota. near a historically significant stop in the Lewis and Clark expedition.

"I feel like we followed the Lewis and Clark Trail," he

The new business aims to offer high-quality backpacking, hiking and emergency preparedness gear.

"Ultimately, it's to bring more stuff to Seaside so people don't have to go to Portland," Johnson said, adding that Tonquin Trading carries unique brands and items that could be hard to find in Portland.

As Johnson got ready for the store's grand opening earlier this month, racks were filled with coats, backpacks of various sizes, and hiking clothing and shoes. The shop also offered solar-powered chargers, freeze-dried food, cookware, water purification systems and other products that could be used for both backpacking and emergency preparedness.

Johnson's goal is to create video tutorials that explain the store's products to customers.

"It's about knowing what you're going to get and how to use it," Johnson said. "The more we dig into the business, the more we want to field test the products in the store."

County invites residents to review, revise charter

The Daily Astorian

The Clatsop County Charter is up for review in 2017, and local residents can be part of the process.

The County Board of Commissioners is appointing an 11-member citizen committee to examine the document, take public input and put forward any recommended revisions.

The board is seeking applications from county residents for four at-large seats on the panel, which is expected to meet once or twice a month for roughly six months beginning January 2017. The board will make the appointments.

Applicants are asked to list any experience with local or county government, areas of the current charter of particular interest or concern, and their expectations for the review

Application forms are available online at www.co.clatsop. or.us or at the county manager's office, 800 Exchange St. or call 503-325-1000.

The application deadline is 5 p.m. Nov. 4.

Any revisions proposed by the review committee will go to the Board of Commissioners for approval and possible placement on the November 2017 ballot.

A charter is similar to a constitution and prescribes how the county government is set up and operates. The current charter, adopted in 2006, calls for review every 10 years.

Clatsop County's first charter was adopted in 1989 following citizens' vote to establish "home rule," which allows the county to choose its own government structure and craft its own laws rather than rely on state statute.

Oregon State, Eastern Oregon see growth in online programs

By ANDREW THEEN Oregonian/OregonLive

PORTLAND — In 2002, Oregon State University's distance education program looked sort of like a Blockbuster video store.

The school had a storage room in Corvallis with lectures on VHS tapes, which staff would mail to students enrolled at OSU who rarely set foot on the main campus.

Today, OSU's so-called "Ecampus" is a juggernaut, routinely recognized on national lists as one of the best online curriculums in the country. If the program itself were a university, it would be the fourth-largest in Oregon. More than 5,000 full-time OSU students take classes exclusively online, compared with 24,500 students on campus.

Enrollment at Eastern Oregon University is smaller, with about 1,200 students on campus, but another 800 study exclusively over the internet.

Students take courses from the same professors who would lecture in Corvallis or La Grande and have easy access to advisers and other campus services. Both schools target students who started college but never

Flexibility is the name of the game in the online classroom. For the most part, the education is on-demand. Students can watch videos of recorded lectures at their leisure and participate in interactive assignments from home. Both schools give students the option of taking finals in person but at locations off-campus.

More than double

Oregon State expects online enrollment to more than double in the next decade, while creeping up roughly 15 percent on the ground in Corvallis.

OSU sees the online program as a way to expand its brand and visibility nationally. Currently, nearly three-quarters of its online-only students live outside Oregon.

We're not just a land grant for Oregon," said Steve Clark, OSU's spokesman of the university's roots as a university with a foot print in every county in the state. We think of ourselves as a land-grant for the world."

Eastern Oregon University, the state's smallest public school situated in rural La Grande, is also all-in for online education.

Roughly the same number of students take classes full-time at Eastern online as in person. "I see it as a major part of our strategic growth," President Tom Insko said, "as well as our service mission as an institution."

Eastern began teaching distance education courses in 1979. Despite the localized branding, it has offices dispersed across the state - from Gresham, to Roseburg, to

The university says it's a hybrid model, where students can go to one of the 11 centers for some coursework if they desire, or to meet face-to-face with faculty or staff, depending on the location or program.

More than half of the faculty members teaching classes this fall have at least one course online.

Insko said the school, which has endured enrollment declines and numerous leadership changes, is trying to offer more options for students to finish degrees. The state wants 40 percent of Oregonians to hold at least a bachelor's degree by 2025.

OSU, too, says it is helping fulfill the state's graduation goals. A record 692 completed one of the university's more than 45 online degree options last year.

Lisa Templeton, the Ecampus executive director, said online learning is not for

"You have to be self-motivated," she said, "It's definitely not easy.'

online The employs 65 designers, developers and administrators. Coursework is vetted through the same academic process as other classes, and instructors go through training with Templeton's staff to develop online curriculum.

Costs more

Oregon State classes online cost more than on campus. A full course load of 15 credit hours for an undergraduate student online is about \$4,200, some \$750 more than for on-campus Oregon students.

But the online program is a bargain for out-of-state students. Whereas on-campus tuition is higher for non-Oregonians, online classes cost the same regardless of where a student lives. Non-Oregonians can save more than \$5,400 per term by taking courses at home rather than in Corvallis.

Templeton said OSU can continue to grow because there will always be students who want to take a class or finish a degree, but can't uproot their whole lives to do it.

"They might have a job, they might have kids," she said, "and getting to Corvallis at 10 a.m. on a Tuesday for class just isn't in the picture."

Record high 60 percent of Americans back legal pot

By DAVID CRARY AP National Writer

NEW YORK — A record high 60 percent of American adults support legalization of marijuana, according to a new Gallup poll released three weeks before voters in nine states decide whether to expand legal access to pot.

When Gallup first asked about this issue in 1969, 12 percent of Americans supported legalization. By 2000, support had increased to 31 percent and has continued climbing since then, reaching 58 percent last year.

Recreational use of marijuana is currently legal in Alaska, Colorado, Ore-Washington state and

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Depending on the Election Day outcome, they could be joined by Arizona, California, Maine, Massachusetts and Nevada.

Three other states — Florida, Arkansas and North Dakota — will be deciding whether to permit marijuana for medical purposes. Montanans will vote on whether to ease restrictions on an existing medical marijuana

According Galto lup's new poll, released on Wednesday, 67 percent of Democrats support legalization, compared to 42 percent of Republicans and 70 percent of independents. Support among adults aged 18-34 was 77 percent, comthe District of Columbia. pared to 45 percent among those over 55.

The poll was based on telephone interviews conducted Oct. 5-9 with a random sample of 1,017 adults living in all 50 states and Washington, D.C. Gallup said the margin of error was plus or minus 4 percentage points. Gallup's findings were

similar to those in a survey released Oct. 12 by the Pew Research Center. It found that 57 percent of U.S. adults sup-

ported legalization of marijuana, up from 32 percent a decade earlier. Tom Angell, chairman of

the pro-legalization group Marijuana Majority, said the two polls suggested that prospects were good for the state ballot measures. "More politicians — pres-

idential candidates included would do themselves a big favor to take note of the clear trend," he said in an email.

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For additional information or Vendor registration contact Carole Glowacki Wahkiakum County Community Outreach 360-795-8630 press option #4

Dawn McIntosh rejoins Campbell & Popkin Judge-elect Dawn McIntosh has rejoined Campbell &



Popkin to work closely with Chris Palmer, in whom she has great confidence. Dawn and Chris are both well-known for skillfully representing clients in divorce, seperation, custody and other family law matters. Campbell & Popkin also provides services in business law, litigation, real estate, estate planning and probate. Dawn and Chris are both taking new clients.

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