

Business in Brief

CMH adds primary care assistant

ASTORIA — Columbia Memorial Hospital has added physician assistant Tom Haigler at the Astoria Primary Care Clinic.

Haigler has more than 30 years in the field, including the last 17 years in primary care in Wyoming. He spent 14 years seeing acute patients as a physician's assistant in the Army, earning several awards and decorations as a combat veteran.

Haigler got his bachelor's degree as a physician associate at University of Oklahoma and his master's degree in physician assistant studies from the University of Nebraska. He specializes in wellness and treating hypertension, thyroid disease, diabetes and mental health.

"I am excited to work with the caring team of providers and specialists at CMH, as well as develop a partnership with my patients so we can work together to provide them with the care that they not only expect, but they deserve," Haigler said in a statement from the hospital.

Haigler moved to Long Beach, Washington, with his wife, Emily, and their four dogs. In his spare time, he likes to hunt, fish, barbecue and camp.



Tom Haigler

Wauna Credit Union breaks ground in Astoria

ASTORIA — Wauna Credit Union broke ground on its new Astoria location in April. The new branch, at 595 Marine Drive, will join the credit union's nearly 50-year history of serving the community's financial needs. It will include a full-service financial center as well as a virtual and call center, and two video tellers and ATM machines.

The completion of the new building is expected to be in late October. It is modeled after the design of the new Wauna Credit Union in Forest Grove.

"We sincerely appreciate the long-term partners who work behind the scenes to get things going," said Debi Smiley, the credit union's chief operations officer. "The Credit Union is pleased and excited to be able to give back to the community by enhancing the area with an attractive facility complete with modern technology and service."

Two local professionals to join tourism leadership program



Linh DePledge

Two local tourism professionals, Linh DePledge and James Paino, will be part of the second-year launch of the Oregon Tourism Leadership Academy. The academy is put on by The Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association, in partnership with the Oregon Destination Association and Travel Oregon.

DePledge is the general manager of the Cannery Pier Hotel & Spa with Vesta Hospitality in Astoria and Paino is the executive director of the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce.

The annual learning program, led by top experts in the tourism field, is meant to help tourism professionals hone their leadership and professional skills. It includes a curriculum, field visits and hands-on experiences.

"Our vision is to bring together tourism professionals from all walks of life to strengthen the interconnectivity within the industry while elevating new leaders who will help move our state forward," said Jason Brandt, president and CEO for the Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association. "The academy will continue to bring lasting personal and professional benefits to those who participate."

The second-year class will go from July to spring 2022. The roster and more information can be found on the Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association website.



JEFF TER HAR

A sunset near the Prom in Seaside.

Travel Oregon awards Seaside with grant funding

SEASIDE — The City of Seaside Visitors Bureau received \$14,000 in grant funding through Travel Oregon's 2021 Competitive & Recovery Grants Program in May.

The visitors bureau and its partners, the Seaside Museum & Historical Society, Seaside Public Works, Travel Oregon, and Formations Inc., will use the funds to make and install five interpretive signs along the Seaside Promenade with history about the area, including information about "Terrible Tilly" lighthouse, the Seaside Aquarium and more.

The Seaside Promenade, also known as the Prom, was officially dedicated in 1921, so the city is celebrating its centennial with a free booklet, walking tour of historic homes and a sweepstakes program.

"Experiencing the Prom is one of the northwest's most rewarding and enduring traditions," said Joshua Heineman, director of tourism marketing for the City of Seaside. "Now, 100 years after its dedication, we'd like everyone to understand their unique place in Seaside's rich history, deepen the enjoyment of being here now, and encourage return visits to the Prom throughout the changing seasons."

For more information, visit SeasideProm.com.

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