

Researchers ask:
Who's your mama?

IN ONE EAR • 1B



WEEKEND
EDITION



Seaside teams
cage the Cubs

SPORTS • 7A

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ONE DOLLAR

Way to Wellville kicks off next week

Five-year health challenge has \$5 million as prize



By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

The "Way to Wellville," a five-community, five-year health challenge for \$5 million, will officially kick off in Clatsop County next week. Clatsop County was chosen in Au-

gust as one of five communities nationwide to compete in the challenge created by venture capitalist Esther Dyson to promote healthy living.

Dyson and her advisers will visit Clatsop County Tuesday and Wednesday for two town hall kick-off events. The first event will be held at the Sea-

side High School library from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday.

The event on Wednesday will be at the Warrenton High School library from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The public is encouraged to attend and share their thoughts on the five-year challenge.

Bonnie Thompson, chief operating officer at Providence Seaside Hospital and member of the local leadership team for the challenge, said the town hall meetings are an

important opportunity for residents to say what health priorities should be pursued.

The initial focus areas for Clatsop County include chemical dependency, mental health, access to primary care, employment, obesity and food access, prenatal education and care, and time-banking service exchange.

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THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

Astoria Mayor Arline LaMear sees infrastructure, including the brownfield cleanup and the renovation of the Astoria Public Library, as immediate challenges facing the city. LaMear also wants to create more transparency in City Council dealings.

Infrastructure, transparency are priorities for the new Astoria mayor

By DERRICK DEPLEDGE
The Daily Astorian

Wading into the nuts and bolts of governing, Astoria Mayor Arline LaMear sees infrastructure as among the most immediate challenges facing the city.

The new mayor, sworn in to a four-year term Monday, pointed to the potential disruption from the 16th Street sewer improvement project near downtown this spring or summer, the frustration over the complicated brownfield cleanup that has left a gaping hole at Heritage Square, and the long anticipated renovation of the Astoria Public Library.

LaMear, a former librarian, had made the library's renovation a theme of her campaign. But she understands that a plan to expand the library into the vacant Waldorf Hotel — also known as the Merwyn — is contentious, since some want



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

Astoria Mayor Arline LaMear addresses the group during her first Meet the Mayor session at City Hall. The monthly session is intended for citizens to talk with the mayor in an open, informal, setting.

to preserve the privately owned building as historically significant.

"It really is a quandary," she said in an interview after her first Meet the Mayor event Wednesday

afternoon at City Hall. "What worries me more than anything else is, let's say the community rises up and says 'We need to save the Waldorf,' that it will sit there another

25 years boarded up as a derelict building."

LaMear wants to make the City Council more responsive to public concerns and more transparent in deliberations by holding work sessions where the mayor and councilors can openly talk through issues that might come before the council without violating the state's public meetings law.

While work sessions are common for councils in other cities, she said they have been rare in Astoria since 2008 when she started serving on the council.

"It's been just a real frustration to me that we'll have these really thorny issues, and we read about them, but when we come to the council meetings, we really don't know how one another feels, or why they feel the way they feel," she said.

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Putting faces on the wall

Photos of Clatsop County Vietnam vets sought for D.C. memorial

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

A national effort to match a face with each of the 58,286 names on the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C., has reached Clatsop County.

Janna Hoehn, a volunteer with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund from Maui, Hawaii, sent The Daily Astorian a list of 12 Clatsop County Vietnam casualties, and said she is still looking for photographs of five of the veterans.

The five remaining veterans without photographs are Ronald S. Anderson, Astoria; Alan L. Barnett, Astoria; Francis D. Campbell, Gearhart; Dan T. Klindt, Astoria; Gordon L. Zimmerle, Seaside.

So far, Hoehn and other volunteers have collected 39,400 photographs across the country. All of the photographs will be sent to the Wall of Faces online memorial and featured in the future Education Center planned adjacent to the Washington, D.C., memorial.

"Putting a face with a name changes the whole dynamic of the Wall, it keeps these soldiers alive and will honor them, our heroes stories and sacrifice will never be forgotten," Hoehn said.

Hoehn has personally found 1,200 photos since the project started six years ago. She began in Hawaii, then her hometown in California, followed by Washington, Idaho and now Oregon.

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'Putting a face with a name changes the whole dynamic of the Wall.'

Janna Hoehn

volunteer, Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund

BPA wants to flood former dairy farm

Federal agency seeks input on tidal project

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

The Bonneville Power Administration is accepting comments until Jan. 28 on the draft environmental assessment and impacts of a project to flood a former dairy farm at the confluence of the Wallooskee (also Walluski) and Youngs rivers and turn it over to conservation by the Cowlitz Indian Tribe.

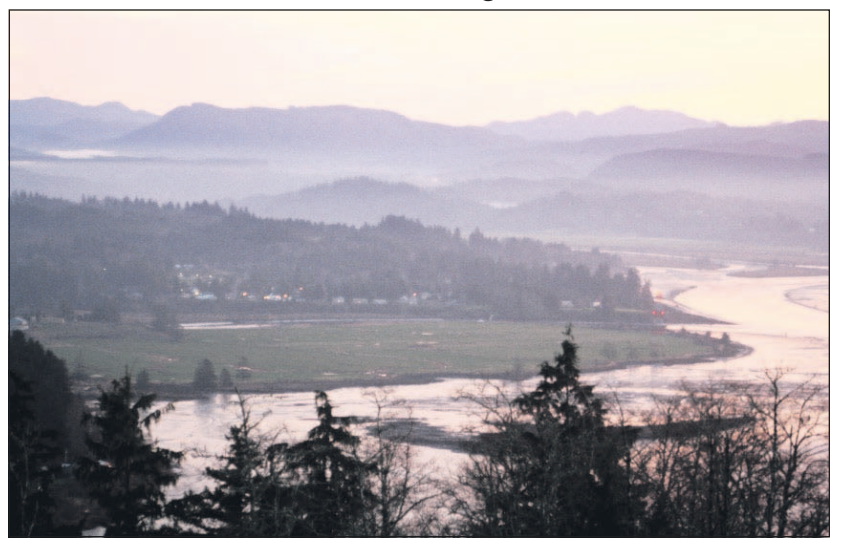
The Wallooskee-Youngs Confluence Restoration Project would flood and conserve 221 acres of historical tideland to re-establish tidal marshes for salmon, steelhead and other wildlife habitat. More information about the project and a copy of BPA's draft environmental assessment can be

found at <http://1.usa.gov/1BPenlr>

BPA is accepting comments on the project by mail and online. Comments can be made online at www.bpa.gov/comment or mailed to: Bonneville Power Administration; Public Affairs — DKE-7; P.O. Box 14428; Portland, OR 97293-4428. When commenting, refer to the full project name.

Confluence project

The proposed Wallooskee-Youngs Confluence Restoration Project breaches a levy authorized by the 1936 Flood Control Act and managed by Clatsop County. It surrounds a point of former dairy farmland jutting southwest from Oregon Highway 202 about five miles from the Columbia River. Congress deauthorized the levee (as a federal levee) within the project



EDWARD STRATTON — The Daily Astorian

The 221-acre parcel proposed for wetland mitigation, seen here in the center of the photo, comprises a slab of tidal marshland jutting southwest from Oregon Highway 202 near the confluence of the Wallooskee (Walluski) and Youngs rivers.

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