



DAVE FISHER — EO Media Group

R.J. Marx at the South County offices of The Daily Astorian, Seaside Signal and Cannon Beach Gazette Tuesday morning in Seaside.

From one coast to another, new editor takes South County reins

R.J. Marx is also The Daily Astorian's South County reporter

The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — The Seaside Signal and Cannon Beach Gazette welcome its new editor to the staff this week.

R.J. Marx joins the paper, replacing recently retired Editor Nancy McCarthy. He is also The Daily Astorian's South County reporter.

Astorian Managing Editor Laura Sellers said, "R.J. brings a storied history of quality journalism and newsroom mentorship to our coast. He's got an outstanding crew to work with to produce the every-other week Signal and Gazette, and already is at home here."

Marx comes to the North Coast following an 18-year tenure at The Record-Re-

view, a weekly newspaper headquartered in Katonah, N.Y., about 40 miles north of New York City. Important stories over the years have included the devastation of Hurricane Sandy in 2012; the Bedford Central School District's "Satan Suit," a legal challenge which helped define the parameters of public school curriculum; and the celebrity adventures (and misadventures) of local residents Martha Stewart, Richard Gere and Donald Trump.

Marx managed coverage of land preservation initiatives; the growth of a regional grassroots effort to promote sustainable energy and reduce greenhouse emissions; and the fair and affordable housing settlement between affluent Westchester County and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Under his helm, Marx helped guide The Record-Review to editorial and design awards at the New York Press Association Better Newspaper Contest in 2014. In years

past, the newspaper was awarded the prestigious John C. Dorman award for "Best Overall" weekly newspaper in New York four times since 1997.

"I feel I can relate to the North Coast demographic and the community in terms of the issues that are really important here — specifically, the environment, social issues and affordable housing," Marx said Tuesday. "I'm really looking forward to joining this very strong staff and great bunch of people. So far, my experience has been really terrific in the area, and I really invite everybody to reach out and introduce themselves."

"Journalism is important to me because journalists, by nature, have to be brave. They have to ask the tough questions. This can lead to change, confronting wrongs and doing something positive for the world we live in."

"I look at journalism as a day-in and day-out process. There are many great moments, but you always know that tomorrow's going to be another story and another adventure."

Postal carriers collect food Saturday

Time to spring clean your kitchen pantry and help feed the hungry with the U.S. Postal Service's annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive.

Letter carriers across the state, and country, will be picking up bags of canned food and other nonperishable grocery items Saturday for area food banks.

Bags of needed food can be dropped off at the Clatsop County Food Bank, 2010 Chokeberry Ave. in Warren-

ton, between 8 a.m. and noon Monday through Friday.

This is the 24th year that the National Association of Letter Carriers workers have added an extra effort to their usual Saturday mail delivery in order to help collect food to fill shelves at local food pantries.

Most county residents should have received a postcard earlier this week announcing the food drive. They also should receive a grocery

bag, which they can fill with nonperishable food — such as canned meats, soup, juice, vegetables, pasta, cereal, peanut butter, and rice. Don't include items that have expired or that are in glass containers. The bags should be left next to the resident's mailbox Saturday morning.

Anyone who didn't receive a grocery bag can fill any other bag or box. Donations also will be accepted in receptacles at post offices.

County Budget Committee to host public meeting Tuesday

By The Daily Astorian

The Clatsop County Budget Committee will discuss the upcoming fiscal year budget during a public meeting beginning at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday in the Judge Guy Boyington Building in Astoria.

Public comment will be taken. The budget committees for the four service districts under the county's jurisdiction — 4-H & Extension Service District, Road District No. 1, Rural Law Enforcement District and Westport Sewer Service District — will also meet for a public meet-

ing at 4 p.m. Wednesday in the same location. The Board of Commissioners will host public hearings on all five budgets during its regular meeting at 6 p.m. June 10.

The total proposed Fiscal Year 2015-16 county budget totals \$51,839,490, a decrease of 1.3 percent from this year's budget. It features staffing increase for the first time in seven years.

The proposed budget increases the county's workforce from 199.8 FTE (full-time equivalent) positions to 203.37, according to the county. The increase is the first since 2008, when the county

had 226 full-time employees. Added positions include three in the Sheriff's Office and one in the Assessment and Taxation Department.

The proposed budget includes an ending fund balance equal to 22 percent of the General Fund budget, the county notes is in line with the Board of Commissioners' policy to set aside a balance of at least 20 percent to cover unanticipated expenses and maintain the county's creditworthiness. The entire proposed FY 2015-16 budget can be viewed online at www.co.clatsop.or.us

On the record

DUII arrest

At 11:25 p.m. Wednesday, a Cannon Beach Police officer stopped Olivia T. Hinson, 26, Cannon Beach on U.S. Highway 101 at mile-

post 29 for driving under the influence of intoxicants. She was charged with DUII, reckless driving, failure to maintain lane and careless driving. Her blood

alcohol level tested at 0.16, according to police. Hinson was taken to the Seaside Police Department for booking and processing.

City warns of traffic slowdown

The city of Astoria is asking for drivers to be patient next week when several long girders and a crane will be delivered for the Irving Avenue Bridge replacement project.

Large trucks will be moving slowly through the city, according to the Astoria En-

gineering Division, especially around corners.

The crane should arrive Monday and the girders later in the week.

Residents with questions can call the Astoria Engineering Division at 503-338-5173.

Sign up for Medicare information class

A Get a Grasp on Medicare class is being held from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday at Columbia Memorial Hospital, Conference Room A, 2111 Exchange St. Preregistration is required.

There are no sales presenta-

tions, and no special offers, just free nonbiased Medicare information, including: a summary of Part A and Part B benefits; Medicare choices; 2015 Medicare Updates and the Affordable Care Act; Part D benefits, and

how to enroll; avoiding health care fraud; and other helpful resources. Plus, guest speaker Melissa Johnstone from North-West Senior and Disability Services will discuss public programs available for seniors, such

as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/ Food Stamps) and Medicaid long-term care benefits.

For information, and to register, call NWSDS at 503-861-4200.

A Life Remembered

Heaven's Honor Roll April of 2015

3 Elizabeth Ann Dee.....	80
4 Judith Woodworth Swift.....	77
9 Robert Dean Johnson.....	61
11 Joanne Marie Skonnard Hellberg. .	72
17 Mary Joyce Stearns.....	70
17 Gary Lee Dorman.....	59
18 Elsie Mary Niemi.....	96
21 Elton Albert Anderson.....	82
22 Carrie Denise Barnhart.....	54
22 Donald Ray Falleur.....	77
26 Helen Ann Falleur.....	75
27 Norman Riikonen.....	84
27 Robert Laurence Emmett.....	59

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