



The Daily Astorian/File Photo  
**Frank Swedenborg at a holiday volunteer event at the Shorewood Apartments. He will become the interim chief.**

## Balzer: He started as a volunteer firefighter

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are still top-notch. There will be no interruption in services.”

She noted that the district will be working with the Special Districts Association of Oregon on the search process for a permanent fire chief. There is no timeline for hiring yet.

The Cannon Beach Rural Fire Protection District provides firefighting and emergency medical service to the North Coast communities of Cannon Beach, Arch Cape and Falcon Cove.

Balzer, who could not be reached for comment Wednesday, started as a volunteer firefighter in the 1980s. A California native, he and his wife came to Cannon Beach to raise their three daughters. He was a building contractor until 1999 before working for the police department for more than a decade. He was sworn in as fire chief in February 2012, taking over from Cleve Rooper, who had served as chief since 1989.

Balzer led the district through wildfires, made decisions regarding fire closures over severe drought

seasons and served on the Cannon Beach Emergency Preparedness Committee. His department responded to a July 2012 fire that totally destroyed the Bistro Restaurant and Bar.

Under his and the Oregon Department of Forestry's direction, the city of Cannon Beach closed Ecola Creek Forest Reserve because of the dry weather around the Fourth of July. He brought new equipment to the district, including a fire truck, and participated in volunteer events such as December's American Legion holiday toy and food drive.

Clatsop County Emergency Manager Tiffany Brown said she received an email from Clyde on Tuesday informing her of the decision.

“It was the first I'd heard of it,” she said.

Calls to the Cannon Beach fire station and district personnel were not returned Wednesday. Many of the firefighters were participating in out-of-town training this week.

Other county and Cannon Beach officials did not return calls for comment or referred to Clyde for a statement.

# Tsunami: ‘I don't think a single person here had problems with preparedness’

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But some residents are convinced an overlay zone — an amendment to the county's comprehensive plan — is not the right answer.

After the vote Wednesday, those in attendance burst into applause — and then left as the commissioners turned to the next item on the meeting agenda. Of the roughly 100 people who attended the meeting, filling up all the chairs and spilling out into the foyer of the Judge Guy Boyington Building in Astoria, most had come to give public testimony in opposition to a tsunami hazard overlay district.

“I don't think a single person here had problems with preparedness,” said Tom Teflow, who owns 5 acres in the Lewis and Clark area and whose family has lived in the county for four generations. “It's land use.”

Originally, county staff planned to recommend the commissioners approve the comprehensive plan amendments and add the tsunami hazard overlay district. But when Jennifer Bunch, a senior planner, presented her findings to the board, she changed that recommendation, saying staff now believed the commissioners should table the ordinance.

In recent weeks, staff had fielded numerous phone calls and emails from people voicing legitimate concern and



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questions about the proposed district, Bunch said after the meeting. Many people were afraid of unintended consequences that could come along with such a district and didn't feel the possible economic and social impacts had been adequately examined, she said.

“I think we need to take a step back (and) address these concerns,” she told the board.

Commissioner Dirk Rohne made a motion to table the ordinance. After some discussion, the rest of the commissioners agreed.

“I'd like us, as policy makers, to gather experts and lead an informed discussion,” said

Commissioner Lianne Thompson, prior to the vote. Such a discussion is vital, she said, so the community feels that creating a new hazard district “isn't someone doing something to you, but it's an opportunity to do something together.”

In other business Wednesday night, the board approved a contract with 2KG Contractors for construction work for the Sheriff's Office project. The county plans to remodel an existing county-owned building in Warrenton and consolidate the Sheriff's Office in that location. Currently, the office is located in the same building that also houses the jail in Astoria. The cost

of the work will not exceed \$1.4 million, according to county staff.

Interim County Manager Rich Mays also introduced interim Human Resources Manager Mark Story. Story's first day with the county was Monday. He will work for the county on an interim basis, overseeing the county's 202 employees, until a permanent replacement is found.

Elizabeth Lawless, a human resources director in Kansas, was hired in July after a nationwide search to replace Dean Perez as the county's human resources manager. But Lawless backed out of the post in late August.

## Buses: ‘I had a log truck nearly hit me head on’

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send a letter to the owner of the registered vehicle letting them know of the reported violation.

“We need to be good neighbors and protect one another by our actions and paying attention,” Halverson said.

### View from the driver's seat

The vast majority of drivers are considerate and follow the rules, fifth-year bus driver Roilyn Williams said, but the minority can cause the biggest impact.

She and other drivers shared stories of buses nearly being hit head on, being clipped by log trucks and cars driving by stopped, signaling buses, even as students tried to cross the street. Trouble spots largely arise along the major highways, from the four-lane U.S. Highway 30 through Uniontown to Leif Erickson Drive and into the curves of U.S. Highway 30 east of Astoria.

“This year, I had a log truck nearly hit me head on” near the Crest Motel, third-year driver Franki Fischer said.

Fischer drives a school bus

on U.S. Highway 30 east of Astoria, and said she pulls off to the right, without flashers, to let students off. The school district avoids crossing students on major highways.

### Constant safety reminders

School bus drivers go through significantly more training than most drivers, and Hahn said school buses are consistently rated the safest ground transportation available. The district invested in LED lights capable of cutting through fog and rain. Bus drivers take their students through emergency

evacuation drills and are constantly reminding them to be safe.

“We will not transport kids who won't look at the driver,” Hahn said, adding most students comply.

There are seven mirrors on each bus, he said, and drivers are trained to use them all and be situationally aware before allowing students to cross the street.

But the bus drivers have no control over surrounding traffic. School buses are slow, Williams said, but that's because drivers are trying to safely transport students home.

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**Complaint form link:**  
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Bergeman Construction is seeking a well-qualified professional to join our team. We are seeking to fill a lead man position within our company. Must be reliable, team player, great attitude and a positive influence. We do all structural aspects of construction both commercial and residential, as well as structure moving, deep foundations, welding, excavation, framing and concrete. We offer competitive wage, 401k, medical and dental. Contact us at 503-861-0411, email: bergeman\_const@qwestoffice.net, 260 SE Marlin-Ave, Warrenton

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 Duties include using machines to place inserts into the newspaper labeling newspapers and moving the papers from the press. Must be able to regularly lift 40 lbs. in a fast-paced environment. Mechanical aptitude helpful and the ability to work well with others is required. Pre-employment drug test required. Benefits include paid time off (PTO), and a 401(k)/Roth 401(k) retirement plan.  
**Pick up an application at The Daily Astorian**  
 at 949 Exchange St. or send resume to EO Media Group, PO Box 2048, Salem, OR 97308-2048, e-mail: hr@eomediagroup.com

## 70 HELP WANTED

**Entry-level Customer Service Representative for The Daily Astorian's circulation department.**  
 A can-do attitude and willingness to learn are necessary. You will help customers in person, by phone and through email, plus do data-entry and create reports. This position is also a back-up driver, delivering products as needed. Must be able to lift up to 40 pounds and be willing to learn to drive a delivery van. Driving and criminal background checks will be completed pre-hire. Hours are generally 9 am to 6 pm, Monday through Friday.  
**Benefits include paid time off (PTO), insurances and a 401(k)/Roth 401(k) retirement plan. Send resume and letter of interest to EO Media Group, PO Box 2048, Salem, OR 97308-2048, by fax to 503-371-2935 or e-mail hr@eomediagroup.com**

**F/T Medical Receptionist needed for busy office, send resume to Attn: Jeanne 2120 Exchange St suite 200, Astoria, Oregon 97103**

**Facilities Manager Columbia River Maritime Museum, Astoria, Oregon**  
 The Columbia River Maritime Museum is searching for a Facilities Manager to join our Management Team. The Facilities Manager has an important role in the successful functioning of the Museum, ensuring all systems and operations are maintained, creating a safe and secure environment. The position is responsible for the safe, secure, effective and efficient monitoring and operation of the museum's overall physical plant including all security, fire, HVAC, plumbing, electrical and mechanical systems. Managing three custodial/maintenance staff. Monitor the work of outside contractors. Work closely with all departments to determine demands of new exhibitions, programming and special events, including but not limited to effective lighting, plumbing, electrical, audio-visual needs, set up, etc.  
**To apply please email cover letter and resume to roberts@crmm.org by October 16, 2015.**

IN SUPPORT OF  
**Breast Cancer Awareness month**

For every ad with a pink background, The Daily Astorian will donate all of the earned proceeds and will be shared between our local hospitals, Columbia Memorial and Providence Seaside.  
 The proceeds will be applied to their breast-health programs. Our goal is to earn \$1,000 during the month of October.  
**CALL 503-325-3211 TO PARTICIPATE**  
 Please join us when placing your ad and help us paint the paper pink!

**F/T Medical Receptionist needed for busy office, send resume to Attn: Jeanne 2120 Exchange St suite 200, Astoria, Oregon 97103**

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 Three to four years comprehensive banking or financial services experience, with strong small business and commercial lending experience required. The successful candidate will also possess at minimum, a Bachelor's Degree in related field or an equivalent combination of work experience and education and advanced skills with Microsoft Office Suite, automated lending platforms and financial analytical software.

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**FREE**  
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**Free Brick**  
 Giving away a variety of bricks. You haul. Call 503-325-7898

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