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ONE DOLLAR



A crack in the M&N Building is visible from Ninth Street.

Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

At quirky crossings, signs may change

City of Astoria hopes improvements will end confusion

By DERRICK DePLEDGE
The Daily Astorian

Stop! No, go ahead. Turn right. Drivers, some who have lived in Astoria for years, have complained that the dual signs at several intersections are confusing and potentially dangerous.

Statistics show that most drivers figure it out, if sometimes haltingly. Intersections with signs that read “Stop” and, underneath, “Right Turn Permitted Without Stopping,” have normal crash rates for traffic volume.

But the city, sensitive to driver concerns, is thinking about making some improvements.

The Traffic Safety Advisory Committee voted Tuesday night to recommend the city go with “Except Right Turn” under the stop signs, instead of “Right Turn Permitted Without Stopping,” and to enhance signage and roadway striping at quirky intersections so drivers can better grasp traffic movement.

At one of the city’s most confounding intersections — Eighth Street and Irving Avenue, where drivers on Irving have the right-of-way as they wind left up Eighth, and drivers going downhill on Eighth are expected to yield — dual signs are not the issue.

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Going, going, gussy up!

Some Flavel properties downtown go up for bid

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

On a blustery Sunday morning, auctioneer Steve Dwelle from Realty Marketing/Northwest arrived to prop open the door to the Mary and Nellie (M&N) Building on the northeast corner of Ninth and Commercial streets, one of the last vestiges of the Flavel family in Astoria.

Potential buyers — after signing a liability release form — had two hours to tour through the five storefronts and equally expansive basement of the dilapidated 8,100-square-foot building.

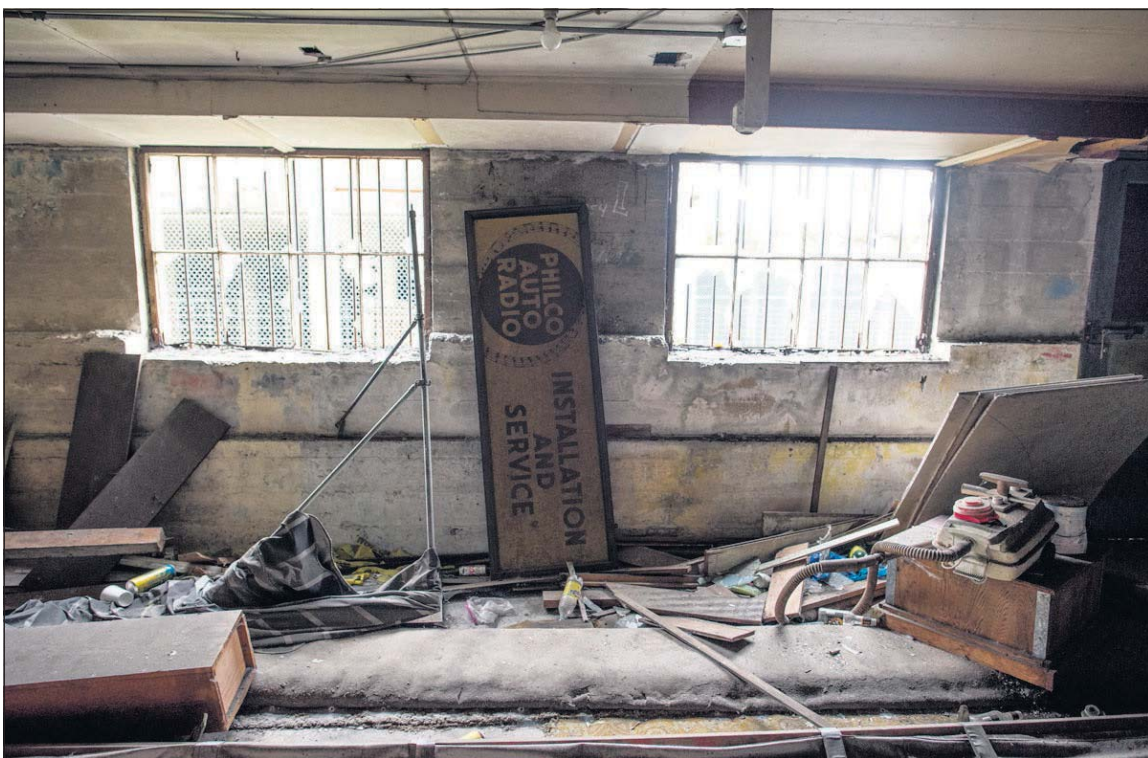
Realty Marketing, chosen by Mary Louise Flavel and her conservator, Caroline Evans, to auction off the property, is taking closed bids until Nov. 18, with a minimum reserve price of \$180,000 needed, and an asking price of \$324,428, equal to the assessed value of the land and improvements.

“This is a great area, being right on the strip,” Dwelle said, adding Realty Marketing has received 15 to 18 requests about the property.

Flavel also owns a building on the southeast corner of Ninth and Commercial streets. John Goodenberger, a historic buildings consultant for the city, said Flavel hopes to invest her earnings from the M&N Building sale.

Many possibilities

The self-guided tours Sunday started at 904 Commercial St. in



Leftover debris litters the floor in the basement of the M&N Building.

Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

PROPERTY INSPECTION

The M&N Building at the corner of Ninth and Commercial streets will be open again for inspection from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 8.

a former bank branch, complete with Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. placards along the hardwood teller counter and a holdup alarm in a back room, near a reinforced concrete vault.

The building’s ground floor stretches over five storefronts, including three on Commercial Street and two more on Ninth

Street, all connected by an equally expansive basement. The building has housed many businesses, from a bank and Pacific Power to Sears and Old Town Framing. These days, the building is littered with detritus, the remains of homeless sleepovers, antique utilities and some memories of past tenants, including

fliers for a tanning salon.

Most of the trickle of visitors on tour Sunday declined interviews, photos or any mention they had been at the property.

One broker, Larry Bensel with Popkin Real Estate in Seaside, said he was trying to get a better understanding of the building’s condition. Bensel’s quest led him to the back of the former bank branch, down a wooden staircase into the dark recesses of the building’s foundation.

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Warrenton relegates pot biz to eastside

Westside dispensary to be grandfathered in

By ERICK BENGEL
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Marijuana enterprises in Warrenton will soon be restricted from operating west of U.S. Highway 101 — except for the city’s sole medical marijuana dispensary-in-development, planned for East Harbor Drive.

On Tuesday, the City Commission held a first reading on an ordinance limiting marijuana production, processing, wholesale, retail and medical dispensaries to the industrial and commercial zones east of the highway.

In addition, marijuana businesses must occupy stand-alone single-use buildings — rather than take up residence in, say, a strip mall or shopping center — because of the product’s odor, and must have at least a 1,000-foot buffer from any school, church, public park or commercial daycare center.

The reading comes several months after the City Commission and Planning Commission agreed to amend the city code to prevent legal marijuana from becoming a nuisance to city neighborhoods.

But, to some residents’ dismay, the ordinance also came several weeks after the city granted CBDB

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Fred Loser wins Seaside’s Byron Award

Longtime Seaside resident exemplifies volunteer spirit

By KATHERINE LACAZE
EO Media Group

SEASIDE — Fourth of July Parade volunteer extraordinaire. Outstanding “ticket-hawker” for weekly Seaside Downtown Development Meetings. Reliable Community Flower Basket distributor. Ham radio operator.

Now Seaside resident Fred Loser can add “Byron Award

winner” to his lengthy resume, replete with examples that demonstrate how he embodies the spirit of volunteerism and community service.

The Seaside Chamber of Commerce announced Loser, who has lived in Seaside about 25 years, as this year’s recipient during the organization’s annual banquet and awards ceremony, held Tuesday at the Best Western Ocean View Resort in Seaside.

Several people nominated Loser for the Byron Award, which is given to a member of the Seaside community who has shown outstanding qualities in community service.



Katherine Lacaze/EO Media Group

Longtime Seaside resident Fred Loser accepts the 2015 Byron Award during the Seaside Chamber of Commerce’s annual banquet and awards ceremony Tuesday night. The award is given to a person who encapsulates the spirit of community service.

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