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ONE DOLLAR

Highway 202 fix leaves residents soggy

Some fear flooding will worsen

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Construction crews will replace a collapsed culvert along Highway 202 just south of Ordway Lane near the Youngs River, raising hope that

the roadway might reopen by the end of next week.

But the fix by the state Department of Transportation is bittersweet for several property owners on the other side of the highway. They worry the two new culverts being in-

stalled will worsen flooding on their land and potentially threaten their homes.

The property owners, Department of Transportation staff and others gathered Wednesday afternoon in the department's Astoria conference room around state Sen. Betsy Johnson, who was trying to play arbitra-

The culvert collapsed amid heavy rains and storm surges during December's record rainfall, closing the highway and sparking an emergency repair.

Bo Miller, a hydraulics engineer with the Department of Transportation, said construction crews are installing sheet pilings on the river side to isolate a construction site

and pull out the failed culvert, a 36-inch pipe.

On Monday, he said, Big River Construction Inc. will start excavating to replace the failed pipe with two 6-foot culverts. Miller said the hope is to open the highway by the end of next week.

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KEEPING WATCH

New body cameras record Astoria police on patrol



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

Sgt. Chris McNear wears his Watchguard Vista body camera during an interview Thursday. The Astoria Police Department purchased 12 body cameras and are in the process of implementing them.

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

Astoria Police have been equipped with new body cameras but will have the discretion over when to record, a balancing act between the public interest and privacy rights.

Police officers will make case-by-case decisions in the field on whether to turn on the cameras based on their assessments of the encounters.

"Any time we are making contact with someone, we are likely to record," Astoria Police Chief Brad Johnston said.

Law enforcement leaders and civil-rights activists have praised the growing use of body cameras by police officers as a positive step toward transparency that can protect police and potential suspects. In a climate of distrust nationally after high-profile police shootings, body cameras can help insulate police against false accusations and hold wayward officers accountable.

But some civil-rights activists are concerned about giving police greater surveillance power and have demanded restrictions.

The new body cameras in Astoria come six months after the state Legislature passed a law requiring law enforcement to establish policies and procedures on the use of cameras.

The state law requires that police body cameras be set to record continuously to capture the entirety of interactions with the public over possible crimes and violations, with exceptions based on reasonable privacy concerns, emergency circumstances, or the safety of police or others.

New cameras and software

Astoria Police recently unveiled a dozen new body cameras, part of a \$50,000 purchase that includes four new vehicle-mounted cameras and software from the company Watchguard Video.

Warrenton, Seaside and Cannon Beach police also use Watchguard Video equipment.

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Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

Sgt. Chris McNear wears his Watchguard Vista body camera during an interview with The Daily Astorian Thursday. The camera records in high definition and has a coverage range of 130 degrees.

Seaside mother pleads guilty to role in daughter's murder

She will testify against boyfriend

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

The Seaside mother accused of having a role in her 2-year-old daughter's murder pleaded guilty Thursday in Clatsop County Circuit Court to first-degree manslaughter and two counts of first-degree criminal mistreatment.

Dorothy Ann Wing, 25, will be sentenced to more than 15 years in prison, but only after she truthfully testifies at the trial of her live-in boyfriend Randy Lee Roden, 27, who is accused of murdering and torturing Wing's daughter.

Roden's trial is scheduled for April. If Wing refuses to testify or is deemed to have lied during her testimony, the District Attorney's Office will set aside her pleas and she would be back to square one regarding her charges, according to the plea agreement.

The couple allegedly committed the crimes between Oct. 31 to Dec. 20, 2014. An autopsy found Wing's daughter, Evangelina Marie Wing, was the victim of homicide and apparently died from blunt force trauma. She would have turned 4 on Jan. 22.

Wing is accused of manslaughter for the neglect and maltreatment of her daughter, a factor in her death. The criminal mistreatment charges relate to Wing leaving her two sons, ages 3 and 6, unattended with Roden over a period of time that likely endangered their health and welfare, according to the indictment.

"She was a beautiful child, full of life and promise," Judge Paula Brownhill told Wing. "And (Wing's sons) also were just sweet little guys, and their lives have changed forever because of you. You are their mother. It was your responsibility to keep them safe and you didn't do that."



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian
Dorothy Wing, right, looks over as her attorney, John Gutbezah, makes comments during Wing's plea hearing Thursday.

Numerous injuries

The couple told investigators about incidents where the 2-year-old girl fell coming from a bus stop, fell off of a toilet and got in tussles with Wing's two sons, who were found injured the same day Wing's daughter was found dead. The boys were hospitalized and placed in state protective custody.

Wing made numerous statements about injuries to her children that occurred while she was at work. She made statements about a broken arm that her daughter suffered while in Roden's care, again while she was out of the house.

Wing was originally indicted on counts of murder by abuse, first-degree manslaughter and six counts of criminal mistreatment. She was facing about 25 years in prison. She was sentenced Thursday to 35 months, out of the pending 190-month sentence, while she waits to testify at Roden's trial.

Death penalty

Roden is serving a 100-month sentence at Two Rivers Correctional Facility near Umatilla for a probation violation from a previous domestic violence conviction.

He violated his probation by possessing marijuana,

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New cell tower at Shively Park brought into focus

Forester had challenged previous depictions as inaccurate

By DERRICK DePLEDGE
The Daily Astorian

Ron Zilli was right. A new Verizon Wireless communications tower at Shively Park would be more visible than the company and city previously described.

Zilli, a forester who lives near the historic park, had told the city the 150-foot monopole would be visible well above the tree line and could be seen from other parts of the city. He has appealed de-

isions by the Astoria Historic Landmarks Commission and the Planning Commission to approve the project, arguing that the tower is incompatible with the park.

New photographic mock-ups of the monopole from Verizon confirm Zilli's point about visibility, and the City Council, which will hear his appeals on Jan. 19, will have to determine whether the revised mock-ups justify walking back the project.

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New photo simulations suggest a 150-foot Verizon monopole proposed for Shively Park will be more visible than previously described.

Submitted Photo

