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ONE DOLLAR



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

Astoria High School senior Raina Christian begins construction Monday on an art installation that will be displayed at the Garden of Surging Waves during the upcoming Mid-Autumn Festival.

ADOPTED ASTORIAN HONORS CHINESE HERITAGE

High school senior celebrates Mid-Autumn Festival

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Adopted at age 8 from the Guangxi province of China, Raina Christian said she recently became interested in her heritage. The incoming Astoria High School senior started learning Mandarin again, and started searching for a senior project she was passionate about.

"When the Garden of Surging Waves started, I remember being really fascinated that Astoria has such a deep Chinese history," Christian said.

Christian connected her heritage with Astoria's, and is organizing the area's first Mid-Autumn Festival around the full moon next month for her senior project.

"It all kind of came together," Christian said. "The garden was there, and I was asking about my heritage, and I was like, 'Why don't I just put on a celebration to celebrate the Chinese heritage in Astoria. And I knew that one of the biggest holidays — the Mid-Autumn Festival, or the Harvest Moon festival — was coming soon."

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The Daily Astorian/File Photo

The story screen at the Garden of Surging Waves will be festooned with LED lights and red lanterns from Sept. 13 to 17 for a celebration of the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival.

'When the Garden of Surging Waves started, I remember being really fascinated that Astoria has such a deep Chinese history.'

Raina Christian
Astoria High School senior

Geologist aims to shake up council

Filing deadline for candidates was Tuesday

By R.J. MARX
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — Seaside might have felt a rumble as geologist and environmental consultant Tom Horning threw his hat in the ring in a bid for City Council.

Horning will challenge Council President Don Johnson in Ward 3 in November.



Tom Horning

Horning, 62, is a lifelong Seaside resident dedicated to raising awareness of the unique and dire peril the city faces from its proximity to the Cascadia Subduction Zone. "Tsunami preparedness should touch every issue," Horning said. "I'm willing to make tsunami preparedness the highest priority of the city."

In his opinion, the city administration is not doing enough.

"The city likes to not rock the boat too much," he said. "They like to appear in control."

Candidates for city elections had until Tuesday evening to file for the November ballot.

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No vote hackers

State takes measures to guard voter rolls from cyber criminals

By CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Oregon's secretary of state says her agency has taken appropriate precautions to minimize the risk that personal information submitted by the state's voters could be hacked.

In the wake of recent security breaches in Arizona and Illinois, state elections authorities received an alert from the FBI by way of the federal Election Assistance Commission.

The FBI's alert recommended states check whether certain IP addresses had attempted to access protected information maintained by state elections agencies.

The recommendation was incorporated into the Secretary of State Office's ongoing security measures to protect the state's centralized voter registration database, Secretary of State Jeanne Atkins said Tuesday.

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Across the river, 'A gun without bullets'

Washington State Patrol's new communications system makes it hard for cops to communicate

By NATALIE ST. JOHN
EO Media Group

LONG BEACH, Wash. — So far, Washington State Patrol's flawed "P25" radio communications system has cost taxpayers \$40 million. Many of the state's roughly 600 troopers are concerned about paying a more personal price for the new "narrowband" digital radio system — they say it could cost a trooper his or her life.

A critical August Performance Audit from the Washington State Auditor's Office, and other related public records confirm something skeptics of the ambitious project have been saying for quite some time: While P25 has a lot of bells and whistles, right now at least, it can't ensure that troopers in rural areas can communicate reliably, or get help quickly. That compromises the safety of officers,

and the public at large, auditors said. Many critics of P25 agree.

"Law enforcement has never been a more dangerous profession," Washington State Troopers Association President Jeff Merrill said Saturday. "To take away our primary tool — a working radio — is tantamount to giving us a gun without bullets."

Local consequences

In a lengthy report, auditors concluded that the ongoing project, which will cost at least \$53 million, has been plagued by missed deadlines, misunderstandings, unantic-



ipated technical problems, a lack of transparency, mounting expenses and underwhelming results.

Of particular concern to local cops, the auditors found that in some rural areas, including parts of Pacific and Wahkiakum counties, coverage has actually gotten worse. Certain new features don't work reli-

ably, or don't work at all. Other local agencies, which are still using older analog systems, can no longer hear troopers over the radio, so troopers now have to rely on a network of state and local dispatchers to convey calls for emergency backup. Critics of the project think this dangerous communications gap could widen the cultural gap between state cops — Department of Fish and Wildlife and Department of Natural Resources also use WSP's radio system — and the local cops they work with on a daily basis.

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