

Widdop honored at farewell party

'Amazing' service to Gearhart

By R.J. MARX
The Daily Astorian

GEARHART — A cross section of residents and officials gathered at McMenamins Gearhart Hotel Thursday night for a farewell to Dianne Widdop.

Widdop stepped down from office earlier this year after 23 years in city government, serving as mayor since 2012.

"Her 23 years of service has been amazing," Mayor Matt Brown said. "She's put so much time and service for the community. I've gotten an opportunity to work with her on the Planning Commission, it's going to be great to have her still involved in the community, I know she'll be a voice of reason for all of us who live here."

"She's done a fantastic job for the city of Gearhart," Windermere Realty's Craig Weston said. "I give her kudos."

Gearhart City Councilor Paulina Cockrum called Widdop a mentor and said she hopes that council members can continue the "Wednesday Coffee with the Mayor" — a weekly interaction with city residents — to raise issues of concern.



R.J. Marx/The Daily Astorian

Bob and Dianne Widdop

"These are my friends," Widdop said, clearly touched by the outpouring of support from the community.

Going forward, Widdop said, she hopes Mayor Brown and councilors will address the foredunes and the dunes restoration plan.

"To me that has been postponed and ignored for so many years," Widdop said. "It is so important for the health of the dunes."

An educational workshop is scheduled at the Gearhart firehouse in January.

During her time as mayor, Widdop initiated short-term rental regulations, helped improve the Ridge Path and enforced regulation of Neacoxie Creek Barn. She presided over the opening of the city's first water treatment plant.

In 2014, Widdop faced a recall challenge after she

was accused of "abuse of leadership."

Voters supported Widdop in the March 2015 special election, with 64 percent of the electorate opposing the mayor's recall.

"I'm relieved that the negative things are over," she said Thursday. "I've enjoyed it. I have made lifelong friends. I would do it all over again."

City Administrator Chad Sweet said he has worked with Widdop since his start in Gearhart in 2011.

"She's been great, supportive, always there for the staff," Sweet said. "She's always helped us out."

During the 2014 recall election, "she prevailed and she stayed strong," Sweet added. "I'll miss her around City Hall, but I have a feeling she's going to be around helping the city with whatever needs to be done."

Jones-Centeno named to cultural board

The Daily Astorian

Bereniece Jones-Centeno, the interim managing director of the Astoria Music Festival, has been named to the Oregon Cultural Trust Board of Directors.

Jones-Centeno was nominated by Gov. Kate Brown and confirmed by the state Senate Wednesday. She fills a position vacated by former Board Chairman Bob Speltz, who stepped down after seven years.

The Cultural Trust manages proceeds from the state's cultural tax credits. Last year, Oregonians gave \$4.5 million to the Cultural Trust, which in turn donated \$2.9 million this fiscal year to Oregon nonprofits. The money trickled down into Clatsop County Cultural Coalition grants equaling

\$11,240 for 10 local groups, funded by the Cultural Trust and Oregon Community Foundation.

"For me, Oregon has always been one of the most appealing locales for arts and culture given the idyllic landscape and the wealth of artistic endeavor," Jones-Centeno said in a release about her appointment. "It has been my long-held passion to be an integral part of the cultural fiber that reaches so many diverse citizens."

Jones-Centeno has worked with the music festival since 2009, and was named managing director in January. She



Bereniece Jones-Centeno

previously served as president of the board and in several staff positions with the Eugene Opera. She has founded and directs both Eugene's Cascadia Concert Opera and Chicago's Genesis Opera.

In the private sector, Jones-Centeno has been executive assistant to the CEO and sales representative of a large corporation in Chicago, and a Realtor for Coldwell Banker Brokerage in Illinois.

With graduate degrees in music and arts administration, she is completing her doctorate in musicology at the University of Oregon, where she has served as assistant grant writer, taught courses and done outreach for the university, Oregon Bach Festival, Eugene Opera and other community organizations.

Black named new downtown advertising representative for The Daily Astorian

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Three months after moving to the North Coast, Ruthann Black is getting used to a new role and a new view.

Black started last week as the downtown Astoria advertising representative for The Daily Astorian.

Black moved to the North Coast from Kansas City, Missouri. She and her husband, Lloyd, who have a grown daughter, first visited on vacation two years ago. Her husband is an estimator for a local contractor.

Replacing Anna Stamper, Black manages advertising with The Daily Astorian for downtown Astoria businesses. It's a new position for Black, who has worked in health insurance and employee benefits.

"It's all about talking to the

customer, finding what it is they do, what's special about them and their unique needs and how you can help them communicate it and let everyone else know," she said.

Black started in her position during the holiday shopping season, and recently organized the "Shop Historic Downtown Astoria" ad campaign for the newspaper, meeting many downtown merchants in the process. She said it's exciting the effort business owners put into making a unique experience, and that her role is to help them thrive.

"You need to show value," she said. "You need to show the value you will bring to their business. Bang for their buck



Ruthann Black

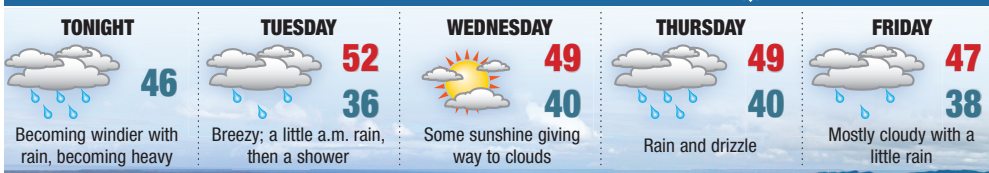
— there's got to be a lot of it."

In her free time, Black said she enjoys exploring the area, learning the history, visiting restaurants and art galleries, biking and playing piano.

Having been born in Olney, Illinois, and living in South Dakota, Nebraska and Missouri, Black said she's especially enjoying one of the most fundamental differences between her old and new homes: water.

"It looks like the ocean, and you see that every day," she said. "I'm not used to seeing water. It's so nice."

FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA



ALMANAC

Astoria through Sunday.

Temperatures
High/low 42°/30°
Normal high/low 48°/36°
Record high 61° in 1981
Record low 13° in 1924

Precipitation
Sunday 0.00"
Month to date 5.60"
Normal month to date 5.85"
Year to date 82.10"
Normal year to date 63.47"

SUN AND MOON

Sunset tonight 4:32 p.m.
Sunrise Tuesday 7:55 a.m.
Moonrise today 11:23 p.m.
Moonset today 11:51 a.m.

Last New First Full
Dec 20 Dec 28 Jan 5 Jan 12

UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: Before sunrise, constellation Virgo represents a maiden.

TOMORROW'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks

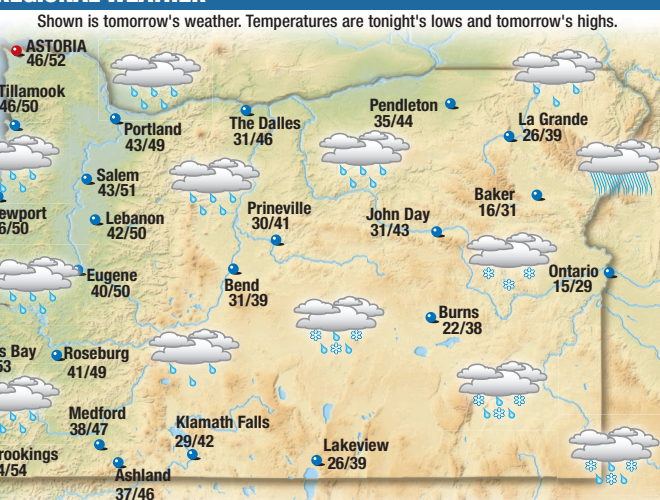
| Time | High | Time | Low |
|-----------|---------|------------|---------|
| 6:24 a.m. | 8.4 ft. | 12:30 p.m. | 2.8 ft. |
| 6:13 p.m. | 7.1 ft. | none | |

NATIONAL CITIES

| City | Hi | Lo | W | Hi | Lo | W |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Atlanta | 48 | 36 | c | 52 | 35 | c |
| Boston | 27 | 17 | s | 33 | 29 | pc |
| Chicago | 13 | 11 | s | 29 | 18 | pc |
| Denver | 42 | 28 | s | 48 | 24 | pc |
| Des Moines | 30 | 18 | s | 40 | 21 | pc |
| Detroit | 14 | 2 | s | 26 | 17 | s |
| El Paso | 53 | 31 | pc | 60 | 38 | c |
| Fairbanks | 1 | -3 | c | 4 | -3 | pc |
| Honolulu | 83 | 73 | pc | 82 | 72 | s |
| Indianapolis | 18 | 9 | s | 32 | 16 | s |
| Kansas City | 30 | 17 | s | 36 | 20 | pc |
| Las Vegas | 51 | 34 | s | 54 | 37 | s |
| Los Angeles | 68 | 44 | s | 74 | 50 | s |
| Memphis | 33 | 20 | pc | 45 | 31 | pc |
| Miami | 84 | 73 | pc | 82 | 70 | pc |
| Nashville | 33 | 20 | pc | 45 | 27 | pc |
| New Orleans | 44 | 38 | c | 53 | 45 | c |
| New York | 31 | 23 | pc | 36 | 30 | s |
| Oklahoma City | 34 | 20 | pc | 49 | 23 | s |
| Philadelphia | 35 | 22 | pc | 39 | 29 | s |
| St. Louis | 26 | 17 | s | 41 | 22 | s |
| Salt Lake City | 33 | 25 | pc | 44 | 26 | pc |
| San Francisco | 54 | 41 | s | 57 | 46 | pc |
| Seattle | 45 | 41 | r | 50 | 38 | r |
| Washington, DC | 38 | 25 | pc | 41 | 29 | s |

Weather (W): s=sunny, pc=partly cloudy, c=cloudy, sh=showers, t=thunderstorms, r=rain, sf=snow flurries, sn=snow, i=ice.

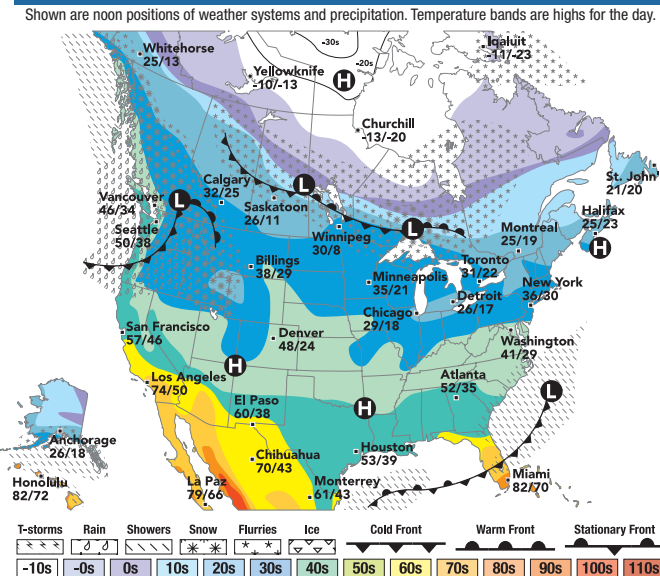
REGIONAL WEATHER



REGIONAL CITIES

| City | Hi | Lo | W | Hi | Lo | W |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Baker City | 16 | 16 | sn | 31 | 5 | sn |
| Bend | 35 | 31 | sn | 39 | 15 | r |
| Brookings | 49 | 45 | c | 52 | 39 | r |
| Eugene | 42 | 40 | r | 50 | 27 | r |
| Ilwaco | 51 | 46 | r | 50 | 39 | r |
| Klamath Falls | 34 | 29 | pc | 42 | 15 | c |
| Medford | 40 | 38 | c | 47 | 29 | r |
| Newberg | 43 | 41 | r | 49 | 31 | r |
| Newport | 47 | 46 | r | 50 | 36 | r |
| North Bend | 49 | 47 | r | 53 | 36 | r |
| Olympia | 43 | 40 | r | 49 | 33 | r |
| Pendleton | 37 | 35 | r | 44 | 24 | r |
| Portland | 44 | 43 | r | 49 | 31 | r |
| Roseburg | 41 | 41 | r | 49 | 29 | r |
| Salem | 43 | 43 | r | 51 | 29 | r |
| Seaside | 51 | 47 | r | 51 | 39 | r |
| Spokane | 29 | 28 | sn | 39 | 23 | c |
| Springfield | 44 | 42 | r | 50 | 26 | r |
| Vancouver | 43 | 41 | r | 50 | 32 | r |
| Yakima | 32 | 28 | c | 46 | 25 | r |

TOMORROW'S NATIONAL WEATHER



CORRECTION

Co-founder omitted — In a 1A story Friday about Clatsop County Board of Commissioners Chairman Scott Lee deciding to forgo another term

and sell his ownership stake in Bikes & Beyond, a co-founder was omitted. The late Richard Fencsak founded the store with his first wife, Joan Herman.

DEATHS

Dec. 15, 2016
MILLER, Harry Acton, 94, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary & Crematory in Seaside is in charge of the arrangements. Visit www.hughes-ransom.com to share memories and sign the guest book.

PHILLIPS, Mamie Lucile, 89, of Seaside, formerly of Ocean Park, Washington, died in Seaside. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary in Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

SNOW, Harold A., 75, of Astoria, died in Portland. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary in Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

Dec. 16, 2016
NELSON, Robert John, 81, of Warrenton, died in Warrenton. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service in Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.
LEE, Kenneth O., 70, of Seaside and Yuma, Arizona, died in Seaside. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service in Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

MONDAY
Astoria City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

TUESDAY
Ecola Creek Watershed Council, 4:30 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St., Cannon Beach.
Sunset Empire Park and Rec District, 4 p.m., 1225 Ave. A, Seaside.
Astoria Historic Landmarks Commission, 5:15 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

Port of Astoria Commission, 6 p.m., Port offices, 10 Pier 1, Suite 209.
Shoreline Sanitary District Board, 7 p.m., Gearhart Hertig Station, 33496 West Lake Lane, Warrenton.
Clatsop County Human Services Advisory Council, 4 to 5:30 p.m., 800 Exchange St., Room 430.
Cannon Beach Public Works Committee, 9 a.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

OBITUARY POLICY

The Daily Astorian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior.

Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at www.dailyastorian.com/forms/obits, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Daily Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria. For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

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| | |
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| 26 weeks in advance..... | \$70.82 |
| 52 weeks in advance..... | \$135.05 |

MAIL

| | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| EZpay (per month)..... | \$16.60 |
| 13 weeks in advance..... | \$51.98 |
| 26 weeks in advance..... | \$102.63 |
| 52 weeks in advance..... | \$199.90 |

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