



GET ELECTION COVERAGE TONIGHT AT **DAILYASTORIAN.COM**



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, which includes the replica of Fort Clatsop pictured above, contributed \$23 million in economic impact in the area last year, according to figures recently released.

## Lewis and Clark park spreads the wealth

National parks contribute to the local economy

By JACK HEFFERNAN  
The Daily Astorian

Lewis and Clark National Historical Park's steady rise as a local economic boon continued in 2016.

The park contributed nearly \$23 million in economic output for the area, according to a report from the U.S. Department of the Interior. By that measurement, it sits in the top 50 percent of the country's more than 380 national park units. It also ranks third out of Oregon's six park units, contributing nearly 17 percent of national parks' contributions to the state.

"We also feature the park as a way to introduce our visitors to the communities at the mouth of the Columbia River and all that this area offers," Superintendent Jon Burpee said.

Lewis and Clark, a nearly 60-year-old park, saw a record 284,531 visitors last year. Those visitors spent nearly \$16.5 million in communities surrounding the park.

See PARK, Page 4A

**'We also feature the park as a way to introduce our visitors to the communities at the mouth of the Columbia River and all that this area offers.'**

Jon Burpee

Lewis and Clark National Historical Park's superintendent



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

A visitor takes a tour of the replica of Fort Clatsop on Monday. More photos online at DailyAstorian.com

### BY THE NUMBERS

**\$23M**

the amount of economic output the Lewis and Clark park contributed to the surrounding area

**284,531**

the number of visitors to Lewis and Clark park last year, which was a record amount for the park

**\$16.5M**

the amount of money those visitors spent in communities surrounding the park

**260**

the number of jobs that were added, which led to \$8.6 million in additional labor income

**\$5.3M**

the amount of money area hotels hauled in from the park's economic output

**\$3.7M**

the amount of money area restaurants hauled in from the park's economic output

## Astoria may add yard debris, glass pickup

### Construction excise tax also debated

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ  
The Daily Astorian

The Astoria City Council looked at a garbage and recycling services rate increase and a construction-related tax Monday night, but delayed making any decisions until there was a better sense of what these increases would mean for the community.

Community Development Director Kevin Cronin plans to attend the North Coast Building Industry Association's annual meeting on Thursday to get feedback on a potential construction excise tax. This tax, based on a building's value, would increase what a developer or contractor working on a commercial building development project pays for a permit.



Kevin Cronin

See COUNCIL, Page 9A

## Short-term rental rules under fire

'Repeal and replace' gains steam in Gearhart

By R.J. MARX  
The Daily Astorian

GEARHART — The city of Gearhart misrepresented a challenge to new short-term rental rules, a Clatsop County Circuit Court judge has ruled.

A summary of a ballot initiative to "repeal and replace" the legislation underwent significant changes as a result of the decision, issued by Judge Dawn McIntosh on May 4.

"This is a huge win," Gearhart property owner David Townsend said Monday. "What we've said solidly from Day One is that the current regime at City Hall is very solidly against vacation rentals. The city was trying to completely manipulate the language. The judge agreed with us, that they were 99 percent wrong. I've been doing this a long time and it's the first time I've seen a judge completely rewrite and take everything from one side."

According to the revised summary, the ballot measure would repeal special regulation on vacation rental dwellings related to off-street parking, residential appearance, garbage service, septic-sewer capacity inspections and cesspool requirements not required of other Gearhart residents.

Some elements of the original ballot initiative prepared by the city are retained in the rewritten summary, including a vote on future short-term rental zoning amendments,

See GEARHART, Page 4A

## Attorney: Man jailed to hide sheriff's corruption

By GENE JOHNSON  
Associated Press

LONG BEACH, Wash. — A man convicted of shooting a Washington state trooper in 2010 is seeking a new trial, saying another man confessed and that the trooper deliberately misidentified him — something the wounded trooper, now a sheriff, adamantly denies.

Martin Jones, 53, is serving a 50-year sentence after being convicted of shooting Scott Johnson in Long Beach. Johnson is now the county sheriff.



Sheriff Scott Johnson

Jones' lawyer has filed a new appeal, including sworn declarations from local drug dealer Peter Boer that on the night of the shooting, his brother Nick, a repeat felon, "took credit" for it and sent Peter Boer to dispose of gun parts.

Peter Boer also alleged a motive, though no evidence has emerged to support it: Johnson had been shaking down his brother for money in lieu of arrest. Jones' lawyer, Lenell Nussbaum, said that explains why the trooper's statements differed from those of the only other witness —

tow-truck driver who was with Johnson when he was shot, and who said Jones wasn't the culprit.

"Johnson falsely identified Jones as the shooter to conceal his own corruption," Nussbaum wrote.

"That's ridiculous," Johnson told The Associated Press. "It's not true."

Nick Boer, who says he has been clean for six years, also denied it, calling his brother "exotic in his imagination." He and Johnson said they didn't even know each other.

"If that guy's in there innocent, I feel bad about that,"

See SHERIFF, Page 4A



AP Photo/Ted S. Warren

Susan Jones poses for a photo in a restaurant in Long Beach, Wash., as she holds a picture of herself with her husband Martin Jones, who was convicted in the Feb. 13, 2010 shooting of Scott Johnson, who was then a Washington state trooper.

