



Photo courtesy of the Clatsop County Historical Society

The property where the Astoria Co-op Grocery will move was part of the employee-owned Astoria Plywood Mill for more than 120 years. After the mill closed in 1989, the city redeveloped the site in the 1990s from a brownfield into a neighborhood.

Co-Op: Several potential sites were surveyed

Continued from Page 1A

Stanley said the co-op looked at several sites and tried to find a downtown location that would work, but couldn't find enough space to accommodate the store expansion and ample parking.

Lots of prep

Stanley said the co-op's 10-year lease with developers Paul Caruana and Brian Faherty in the Shark Rock Building runs out at the end of 2018, by which point the store hopes to open in the new location. But the project faces several permitting and design hur-

dles before construction can begin.

The new site is zoned attached housing-Mill Pond, intended to "provide an area of intensively developed mixed uses, incorporating housing, limited commercial uses, recreation and open space with a strong orientation to the Mill Pond and the Columbia River."

The zone allows outright artist studios, in-home day care centers, single- and multifamily dwellings and other residential facilities. Conditionally allowed are bed and breakfasts, commercial day care centers, public use and retail spaces no-

larger than 6,000 square feet, meaning the co-op's larger project needs a zone adjustment and conditional use permit. The project will also need approval from the Mill Pond Village Owners Association.

Helping the co-op design the store and get approval is Don Vallaster, a Portland architect and one of the partners in Astor Venture. The company acquired the property a decade ago from Wauna Federal Credit Union, which attempted to put a new branch there. Over the years, the site has played host to a number of proposals, including workforce housing and a care center.

Astoria Plywood Mill

The employee-owned Astoria Plywood Mill occupied the area around Mill Pond for more than 120 years, until the mill closed in 1989. The city redeveloped the site in the 1990s from a brownfield into the 16-acre Mill Pond Village neighborhood, mostly developed except for the vacant land where the co-op could build.

Despite all the hurdles, Vallaster said, it feels good to finally have something tangible happening with the property. "It seems like a good use for the property, and certainly a good thing for the city," he said.

Moberg: Excited about honoring those in the industry for exemplary work

Continued from Page 1A

"I think I read through the entire children's section of the Astoria Library," Moberg laughed.

The former library director Bruce Berney offered her a job as a page because "he was seeing me in the library every week anyway," she said.

Her experience in working with rural libraries will end up being an asset as president, current president Elsa Loftis said.

"She knows the dynamics. We like to have broad geographic representation of communities outside the Portland and Salem corridor and we're always trying to find ways to support rural and special libraries," Loftis said. "I know she's passionate about all libraries, and that's what it takes."

Some of Moberg's goals as president are tackling lack of funding for libraries across the board, as well as making the needs of small, rural libraries like Warrenton — which runs with only one paid staff person — a priority.

"Sometimes people don't realize how critical these grants and resources are to libraries like these," Moberg said.

Early childhood literacy

She also said she hopes to focus on her longtime passion of supporting early childhood literacy. Moberg has been a main player in the Libraries Reading Outreach in Clatsop County program that helps rural kids get access to public library cards for free. She also hopes to develop ways to help libraries be more proactive about securing more modern technology resources, she said.

But what Moberg is most excited about is what she finds the most rewarding aspect of the job: honoring people in the industry for exemplary work.

"I get the great job of being the one who gets to say 'thank you,'" she said. "(Libraries) do a lot of things well, but we're not great about always telling people about it. It's my job to let everyone know."

"I get the great job of being the one who gets to say 'thank you.'"

Esther Moberg
director at
Seaside Library

Port: Life Flight is 'committed to Astoria'

Continued from Page 1A

"It hasn't been budgeted, because Life Flight will take the responsibility for these upfront design and permitting costs," Port Executive Director Jim Knight said. "It's because of the bond measure failing. We had the discussion ... between our staff and Life Flight, and recognize that it's on their shoulders now."

Port Financial Director Will Isom added, "Our goal is to look for any grants we can to help out with that, but we've kind of told them that if we find these grants, they're going to have to be the ones coming up with the match. We just don't have the money in our normal operating budget to pay for that. That's why we went out for a bond."

Southern spot

Port staff had recommended a location at the southern end of the airport to take Life Flight away from congestion near the main entrance at 12th Place. The location was supported by Life Flight, the Federal Aviation Administration and the Airport Advisory Committee. But the move, which would have also created a new southern entrance to the airport and made several nearby acres shovel-ready for development, included \$1.92 million in development costs the financially strapped Port could not afford.

Port Commissioner Stephen Fulton, who had opposed the bond measure because of the added development beyond Life Flight and sought several cheaper alternatives unsupported by staff, asked Knight whether there was any way the budget committee could consider earmarking money to accommodate Life Flight.

"It's something that you could consider, but I wouldn't advise it at this point, with Life Flight willing to fund those costs themselves," Knight said. "I don't think it would be wise at this stage of the development to allocate any money toward the Life Flight project. It's kind of the hard approach, but I think it's the right approach."

Jacob Dalstra, regional director for Life Flight, said the nonprofit is working with the Port to find alternatives for development.

"We're committed to Asto-

ria," he said. "We want to try and build a permanent home out there."

Dalstra said Life Flight is hoping to stick to its original timeline for construction, which he did not disclose. He

said there are options to extend the timeline, which Life Flight would like to avoid.

Scott Turnoy, a manager of the ConnectOregon grant program for the Oregon Department of Transportation, said

there are options for awardees to extend a timeline in the case of unforeseen circumstances.

"Generally, we expect projects to be completed within five years of the award," he said.



Did you know?



1



2



3



4

1. CMH cares for the whole family.
2. You can pay your bill online.
3. CMH provides an athletic trainer to schools at no cost.
4. Our volunteers are priceless!

2111 Exchange St., Astoria, Oregon • 503-325-4321
www.columbiamemorial.org • A Planetree-Designated Hospital

Consult a PROFESSIONAL



ASTORIA CHIROPRACTIC

Barry Sears, D.C.

503-325-3311
2935 Marine Drive
Astoria, Oregon

Q: My doctor says I need surgery for a ruptured disk.

A: Not so fast. At least 1/3 of adults have a ruptured disk and no symptoms. The presence of a bulging or herniated disk may have preceded the current complaints. Most pain is from inflammation. If that can be reduced, the pain goes away from the back, arms and legs. Chiropractic manipulation is an effective tool to reduce spinal inflammation and reduce pain. There is rarely a time when surgery should be done before a 3-4 week trial of conservative chiropractic care. At least 1/3 of spinal surgeries do not eliminate the patient's problems. Once done, it can't be undone. Try chiropractic first. Call 503-325-3311 to see if we can help you.



JEFFREY M. LEINASSAR
DMD, FAGD



503/325-0310
1414 MARINE DRIVE
ASTORIA, OR
www.smileastoria.com

Q: It has been a long time since I last visited the dentist. What should I do?

A: First, acknowledge yourself for considering your dental health. Most importantly, understand that you will be welcomed and given respect, understanding, and accurate information to help you determine your course of action. Dentistry has lots to offer to all who are ready.



LEO FINZI
Astorias Best.com



WE MAKE HOUSE CALLS THAT ARE FAST, FRIENDLY AND AFFORDABLE!
M-F 10-6 Sat. 11-4
77 11th Street, Suite H
Astoria, OR
503-325-2300

Q: How do I update to the latest version of Windows 10?

A: Go to <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/software-download/windows10>
Updating will –
• Help protect your computer from viruses and ransomware.
• Help your computer run more quickly.
• Provide enhanced features, such as 3D Paint
• Repair minor glitches that may have crept into your system.

P.S. Visit us on Facebook, and you can easily copy and paste the update link.