

THE DAILY ASTORIAN

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ONE DOLLAR

ASTORIA REGATTA

Regatta opens with a coronation

Astoria High School junior crowned queen

By **KAELIA NEAL**
The Daily Astorian

Megan Postlewait, an Astoria High School junior, was crowned Astoria Regatta queen Wednesday night at a coronation at the Liberty Theater.

"I cried a little," Postlewait said as she stood in the hallway of the theater with her crown and cloak.

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Megan Postlewait of Astoria, center, wipes away tears as she is crowned the 2017 Astoria Regatta Queen Wednesday night during the coronation ceremony at the Liberty Theater.

Colin Murphey
The Daily Astorian

IF YOU GO

Thousands of people are expected for the Regatta. Here are some of the main events. A full schedule can be found online at AstoriaRegatta.com

- **Wednesday:** Regatta Queen Coronation, Liberty Theater
- **Today:** Junior Parade, 5:30 p.m., downtown
- **Friday:** Seamen's Memorial, 3 p.m., Maritime Memorial Park in Uniontown
- **Saturday:** Grand Land Parade, noon, downtown
- **Sunday:** Sailboat Races, 1 p.m., West Mooring Basin

County endorses needle exchange

Pilot program could protect public health

By **JACK HEFFERNAN**
The Daily Astorian

A pilot needle exchange program has received official support from Clatsop County.

The Board of Commissioners unanimously approved a resolution Wednesday supporting the six-month program, which will be funded by a \$50,000 donation from Friends of Columbia Community Health. While the county Public Health Department has been developing the program for months, the resolution gives it political backing before the first exchange session takes place later this month.

Commissioners initiated the idea of drafting a resolution during a July work session. At the session, Public Health Director Michael McNickle introduced them to the program and described potential benefits such as cost reduction, curbing the spread of disease and limiting the number of needles in parks. McNickle also said the exchanges could be a fulcrum for nurses at the sites to develop trustful relationships with those who use drugs, which could then lead

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Colin Murphey/*The Daily Astorian*

The needle exchange program coming to Clatsop County in August is being funded by a \$50,000 grant from Friends of Columbia Community Health for six months, at which point the program will be examined for possible permanent implementation.

Coastal hospitality

FORMER INTEL ENGINEER TAKES ON HOTELS, APARTMENTS ON NORTH COAST



Colin Murphey/*The Daily Astorian*

Taslema Sultana walks around the grounds of one of the hotels in Cannon Beach that she now manages. Sultana recently took over management of four hotels in the area as well as other real estate properties.

By **EDWARD STRATTON**
The Daily Astorian

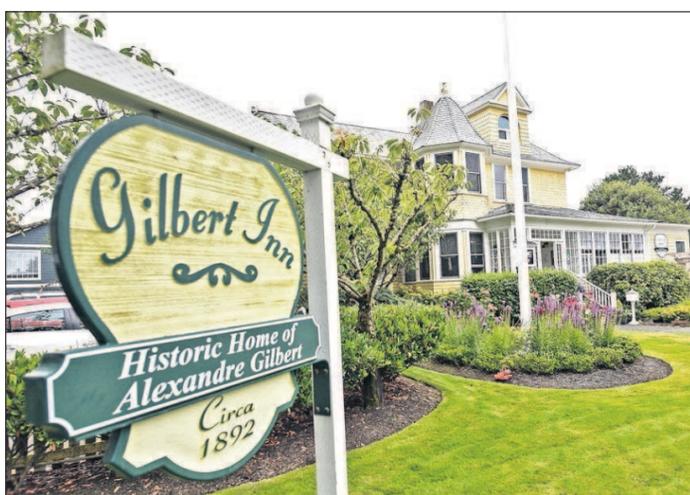
For Taslema Sultana, a former engineer at Intel, taking over management of four hotels and two apartments in Cannon Beach and Seaside has been a relaxing step back.

Sultana, whose husband Masudur Kahn runs four hotels in Seaside, is part of an ownership group that recently purchased hotels in South County owned by Antoine and Rocio Simmons, who has transitioned out of the local hospitality industry.

Before hospitality, Sultana, who has a Ph.D. in chemical engineering, was a senior engineer at Intel for eight years, overseeing high-volume manufacturing for the chipmaker and helping set up a new factory.

By 2015, she had already been thinking about starting her own business, likely in real

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Colin Murphey/*The Daily Astorian*

The Gilbert Inn is just one of the hotels in Seaside and Cannon Beach that are now managed by Sultana and her husband.

Expanded recycling makes its debut in Astoria



Submitted Photo

Astoria will soon have curbside glass and yard debris pickup. The City Council approved additional services in June.

Curbside yard debris and glass recycling

By **KATIE FRANKOWICZ**
The Daily Astorian

Astoria residents will have curbside yard debris and glass recycling carts to add to their regular recycling and garbage bins by the end of August.

Pickup won't start until September, however, with the first yard debris collection occurring on customers' regular service day beginning

Sept. 4. The first glass pickup is scheduled for Sept. 25.

The City Council voted 3-2 in June to approve a rate increase to add these services offered by garbage collection company Recology Western Oregon.

City Councilors Zetty Nemlowill, Bruce Jones and Tom Brownson voted in favor of the increase, saying, at most, it would add only a few dollars to a customer's monthly bill.

Mayor Arline LaMear was against yard debris pickup, but in favor of curbside glass pickup. Councilor Cindy Price opposed the increases, citing concerns about raising fees.

She remains concerned about where people will put the extra bins, especially in places where space is already limited.

The total cost of garbage and recycling pickup services with the addition of these new services will vary from customer to customer based on the size of bins they already have and how often they are scheduled for pickup.

People can opt out of the program — residents are already dropping off glass and yard debris at the Astoria Transfer Station for free — but they can't opt out of

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