

THE DAILY ASTORIAN

145TH YEAR, NO. 89

DailyAstorian.com // THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2017

ONE DOLLAR

Students and families warned of cougar risk

Cougar said to have snatched cats

By R.J. MARX
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — Seaside Heights Elementary School moved all student activities inside Monday after a reported cougar sighting.

Staff escorted students home and monitored crosswalks. Residents of Creekside Village Apartments are being warned their small pets could be in danger.

Superintendent Sheila Roley said a neighbor reported to Principal John McAndrews “that she believed she had seen a cougar in the neigh-

borhood last weekend.” Roley consulted with an Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife field biologist for guidance. Seaside police, Clatsop County and Oregon State Police have all been notified of the sighting.

Animals gone missing

The alert came after residents of the Creekside Village Apartments witnessed a fight that left a house cat dead or missing at the hands of a violent unknown predator, possibly a cougar.

“Our manager informed us and I thought the public should be aware,” resident Jennifer Paluch said Wednesday.

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National Park Service
Residents at Creekside Village Apartments fear a cougar could be responsible for the disappearance of house pets.

COUGAR WATCH

Information provided by the Seaside School District from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife :

- Cougars typically are out at dawn and dusk.
- Cougars avoid lots of noise.
- Males have a very large territory of up to 50 square miles and move throughout it. Females have a territory of about 10 square miles.
- It is rare to have a cougar stay in the same area for more than a few days before moving on unless they are near a good supply of livestock who are out at night.
- It would be extremely unlikely that a cougar would approach a playground full of children during the day.

County manager offered to resign

Moore now says he plans to keep job

By JACK HEFFERNAN
The Daily Astorian

Clatsop County Manager Cameron Moore told county commissioners in a September email that he would resign in March to ensure that county staff could come forward with concerns about management without fear of retaliation.

Moore, an experienced administrator who was hired last year to bring more stability to a county that had seen nine managers in 16 years, made the offer after Commissioner Lianne Thompson claimed county staff were unwilling to share their concerns due to fear of retaliation.



Cameron Moore

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Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Vehicles board the Oscar B ferry near Westport for the ride to the Washington state side of the Columbia River.

New dredging to start after Thanksgiving

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Eric Ferguson is one of three full-time captains with Wahkiakum County who ferry about 80,000 people a year between Puget Island, Washington, and Westport on the Oscar B, the only remaining interstate ferry on the Columbia River.

Running perpendicular to the flow of the Columbia, the 1,900-foot-long channel requires dredging every few years to allow the Oscar B passage. Recently awarded the contract by the Army Corps of Engineers, regional dredger J.E. McAmis is scheduled to start the maintenance anew after Thanksgiving.

At the top of each hour, captains pull out of the landing at the tip of Puget Island, only a few feet separating the bottom of the Oscar B from the northern banks of the Columbia. A side-scan sonar shows the deepening river as the ferry

crosses the shipping channel and the shallowing as it approaches the entrance to the Westport Slough.

“This summer, we really noticed it,” Ferguson said. “We got the low tides, and that’s when we noticed we’re getting down to a few feet of water under us.”

J.E. McAmis was contracted to remove a total of 35,000 cubic yards, or about 30 barge loads, of sediment around the Puget Island landing and near the entrance to the Westport Slough. The

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Westport tops Astoria in commercial fish catch

Washington state port had a strong year

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Daily Astorian

A port in Washington state beat Astoria at commercial fishery landings and the value of the catch last year.

Westport, Washington, came in 10th on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s annual report on fisheries. The report includes information about the quantity and value of commercial fishery landings, as well as what species were brought to shore.

Astoria trailed Westport at 12th place, with 94 million pounds landed in commercial fisheries last year.

In 2015, Astoria had been ahead of

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Astoria Co-op meets fundraising goal

Investors raise \$1.5 million for larger store

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

The Astoria Co-op Grocery has reached its \$1.5 million fundraising goal to help build a new store at the corner of 23rd Street and Marine Drive, where it hopes to move by the end of next year.

The grocery launched the campaign about a month and a half ago during its annual meeting, making available up to 25,000 \$100 shares, with a minimum investment of 25 shares at \$2,500.

The campaign started with \$430,000 worth of shares sold in the weeks prior to its launch and reached the goal of \$1.5 million on Halloween, according to General Manager Matt Stanley.

“We reached it really the last day,” Stanley said. “We were pushing with our campaign team right to the last minute.”

Around 175 Astoria Co-op members in Oregon invested in the shares, with an average investment of more than \$8,500 per person and some individual investments as high as \$100,000, Stanley said.

People who invested under \$10,000 receive an annual dividend of 3 percent, with shares paid back as the store rebuilds cash reserves. Investors above

that amount receive a 4 percent annual dividend.

One of the higher-level investors was Stanley’s father-in-law, Tom Owen, who moved from Springfield to Astoria a couple of years ago and said the co-op’s shares offered a better investment return than some of his individual retirement accounts, while providing an opportunity to support the community and a local business.

“I look at this as at least five years,” Owen said of the return on his investment.

The offering for shares is still open, and the co-op is still trying to sell up to another \$1 million worth, Stanley said. The store

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Astoria Co-op Grocery

Astoria Co-op Grocery is planning a new \$8 million, 12,000-square-foot location at 23rd Street and Marine Drive.



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If so, Thank You! We hope to see you SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH! If not, please join us and become a member!

Join today!

Coast Community Radio Annual Complimentary Breakfast and Board Member Election
A chance to nosh, mingle and vote with other members!

Join Saturday!

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