

County looks to nonprofits to curb low-income housing woes

Refurbished Alderbrook home could serve as model

By JACK HEFFERNAN
The Daily Astorian

With a mountain of trash blighting the property, an Alderbrook home foreclosed last year after decades of disrepair. But its potential value was obvious. It offers a scenic view of the Columbia River and it was in a scene in the series

finale of the popular show “Dexter.”

Instead of hiring someone to remove the trash and preparing it for auction, Clatsop County chose a route that other counties have tried but is unique locally. The county handed the 51st Street property over to Community Action Team and Clatsop Community

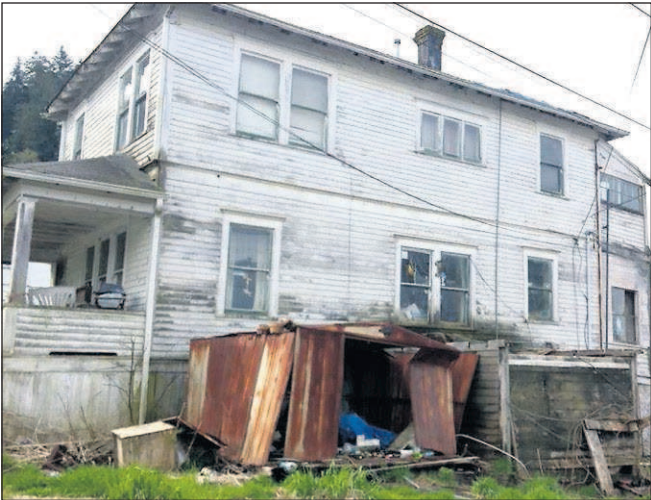
Action, two nonprofit organizations. The debris has been cleared, and the organizations plan to list the home for sale and use the proceeds to build low-income housing units in the future.

“I thought it was a very inventive idea,” CCA Executive Director Elaine Bruce said. The move also may signal



a new tactic for the county as it struggles with low-income housing shortages.

See HOUSING, Page 7A



Casey Mitchell

This home in the Alderbrook neighborhood of Astoria was recently acquired by two local nonprofits that plan to sell the refurbished location and use the proceeds to build low-income housing.



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Pyrosomes dot the landscape near Cannon Beach.

Thousands of pyrosomes washing up on local beaches

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Daily Astorian

The pyrosome invasion continues. Thousands of the strange, pickle-shaped gelatinous creatures continue to wash up on Clatsop County beaches months after ocean biologists first recorded masses of them drifting offshore during a research cruise in the spring.

Very little is known about pyrosomes or why they have shown up in force now. Research into what they eat and what it means to have them in the ecosystem is ongoing.

Pyrosomes have been seen in Oregon and Washington state waters before but never in such large numbers. This spring, there were enough floating in the water column to clog up fishing gear on commercial shrimp boats.

The colonial animals — a single tube



Katie Frankowicz/The Daily Astorian

Dozens of pyrosomes have recently washed up on beaches in the region.

contains hundreds, possibly thousands of individuals — have been recorded as far north as Alaska, where they have never been seen before.

Fishermen first saw them in their fishing gear in February. At the end of October, researchers with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Alaska Fisheries Science Center were still encountering them in acoustic, surface and bottom trawl surveys all the way from Kodiak to waters off southeastern Alaska.



Katie Frankowicz/The Daily Astorian

Mysterious creatures known as pyrosomes have been washing up on local beaches recently and have been showing up in fishing nets.

According to NOAA, pyrosome numbers in the Northern California Current — which encompasses Northern California, Oregon and Washington state — went up in 2015 and spiked again in 2016.

“As far as scientists know, however, their abundance this year is unprecedented,” NOAA spokesman Michael Milstein wrote in June.

Ship Inn staffer ships out with a new food cart

Fish and chowder are on the menu

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Enola Baeten, who spent 15 years on and off working at the The Ship Inn on Astoria’s waterfront, had always wanted to own her own restaurant, or something similar.

The closure of the British-themed fish and chips haunt earlier this year gave Baeten the impetus she needed to start planning her creation: Enola’s Ship Out, opening this week near the Lewis and Clark Golf & RV Resort.

The new food cart, custom-built in Portland, features a full kitchen on the inside and a panorama of Astoria and the Columbia River created by local artist Bryce Harris.

Like The Lunch Wagon at the Astoria Regional Airport, Baeten opted to open her food cart in a more rural business corridor with few nearby restaurants. She also expects a boost from a 35-unit housing development being built next to Lewis and Clark Elementary School, along with high schoolers on lunch break. Her location also provides indoor seating inside a vacant greenhouse next door.

The Ship Inn, opened in 1974, closed in April after owner Jill Stokeld sold the property to developer Mark Hollander, who also purchased the former Stephanie’s Cabin

See FOOD CART, Page 7A



Edward Stratton/The Daily Astorian

Enola Baeten, left, is starting Enola’s Ship Out, with assistance from her husband, Neal.

Traveling is in the cards for Astoria bridge players

Team hits the road for tournaments

By JACK HEFFERNAN
The Daily Astorian

In their many trips together, Lewis Richardson and Monica Taylor have taken shelter from a tornado, explored the Grand Canyon, viewed wildlife in national parks and peered over artifacts of history.

But the main point was to



sit around and play cards.

Richardson, 75, and Taylor, 73, formed a two-person team more than 10 years ago after rediscovering bridge, a card game that pits pairs of people against each other. This year, the retired Astoria residents accomplished their goal of traveling to every state in the

country to play in tournaments.

Richardson’s and Taylor’s experiences with bridge run parallel. They learned the game in college in the 1960s and stopped playing for about 40 years. Following retirement and the deaths of their spouses, they found other locals who played and eventually agreed to form their own team.

Richardson moved to Astoria in 1968 and worked at the Oregon State University Seafood Lab for 20 years before

See TEAM, Page 7A



Monica Taylor

Lewis Richardson and Monica Taylor, of Astoria, are avid bridge players.

