

Hotel: 'I think we are the first project to go under this Bridge Vista overlay'

Continued from Page 1A

feet in height allowed in the Bridge Vista portion of the city's Riverfront Vision Plan. The company is going through a design review on the hotel with the city, followed by a historic landmarks review and the permitting process.

Under the best-case scenario, construction would begin late this year and the hotel would open sometime next year, Mullen said.

"I think we are the first project to go under this Bridge Vista overlay," Mullen said, adding the company is seeing how this project goes before taking on others.

Hollander Investments is also looking at turning the former Stephanie's Cabin into a restaurant and brewery after the hotel is finished. The company has talked with a couple of nearby breweries about the space but wouldn't start the project until it can acquire more parking, Mullen said.

Hollander Investments is owned by Mike Hollander and his son, Mark, who had tried to take over operation of the Astoria Riverwalk Inn. In 2015, the Hollanders leased a strip of land from the Port of Astoria along the waterfront near the Red Building to explore the feasibility of siting a Marriott franchise.

Jim Knight, the Port's executive director, said the Hollanders are still exploring a development there but first want to complete the project off Second Street.

The Hollanders' property is just east of Astoria Warehousing Co., a former salmon-canning and -labeling company that is closing as operations are moved to the Seattle area. The company's campus includes about 5 acres spread along the waterfront next to the Astoria Bridge.



A rendering shows the proposed 66-room Astoria Fairfield Inn and Suites, a Marriott franchise, along the Astoria Riverwalk at the site of the former Ship Inn restaurant.



A rendering provides an eastward view of the proposed 66-room Astoria Fairfield Inn and Suites on the right.



A conceptual drawing shows the hotel and marina Fenton Stokeld had imagined around the site of The Ship Inn. Hollander Investments is proposing a four-story, 66-room hotel at the site.

Plants: Park collaborates with school groups, organizations to manage invaders

Continued from Page 1A

Invasive species impact every acre of the 3,400 acres at Lewis and Clark, though not necessarily by their physical presence, said Chris Clatterbuck, the park's chief of resource management.

Pacific Northwest forests are productive environments, capable of growing and sustaining diverse plant populations. With invasive plants already present in portions of the park and in the private lands around the park, the threat of invasion is real.

"Because what might be perfectly great habitat, all native species, a bird could drop a holly berry and you'll find a holly tree after a while," Clatterbuck said.

The park collaborates with school groups and organizations like the Clatsop Soil and Water Conservation District or the North Coast Land Conservancy to manage invaders like Scotch broom or yellow iris and purple loosestrife in the Youngs Bay watershed. Through these partnerships, park staff can curb the spread of invasive species into the park.

"This is much more cost-effective than waiting until the infestations get out of control and into our parklands and eradication costs skyrocket," Cole said.

Cultural landscapes

The Nehalem Bay unit is in the middle of a project to clear 20 acres of trees and invasive brush north of the Nehalem Bay State Park airstrip. The project will close down an entrance to the park on weekdays throughout most of March.

The trees need to be cleared for the airstrip to be usable, but the park plans to take advantage of the situation to remove rampant Scotch broom, replace it with native kinnikinnick and control the invaders' progress by introducing desired competitors for that prime real estate.

At Lewis and Clark, invasive plant management can also be about protecting historic characteristics of the sites — the landscapes native people navigated, the plants they used for medicine, food, clothing and basketry, the world that the explorers who give the park its name

encountered.

"It's important to be able to maintain those cultural landscapes," Clatterbuck said.

This kind of management can be years in the making. At this point, park staff feel they have a handle on older, mature invasive plants, but some species have become naturalized over the years. In some cases, it would take an inordinate amount of control to convert the landscape back. There is no aggressive anti-dandelion policy, for example.

Rangers focus on new infestations and on species that are particularly aggressive, species that will crowd out other species and create a monoculture.

The battle against invasive plants is a constant and seemingly never-ending process. Victories may feel scattered, rare and temporary, but park staff can point to several positive changes over the years.

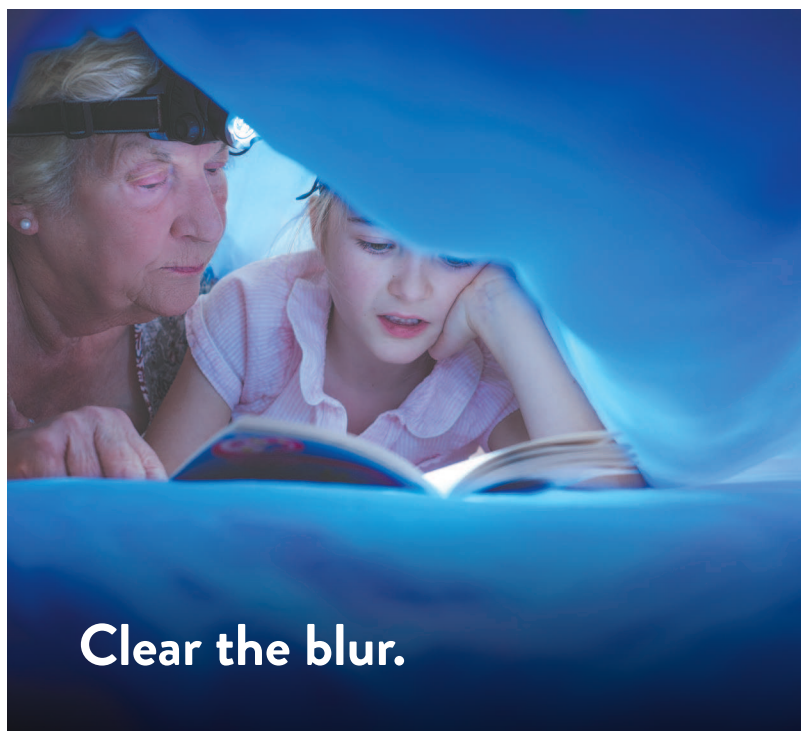
The park at one point acquired around 900 acres of forest that hadn't been treated for common invasive plants like holly and ivy. Over the years, crews eliminated much of the seed-producing holly. Where the park has done tidal

restoration, it has been possible to drown out invasive plants.

"You see what was once a mixture of pasture grasses is now a full wetland com-

munity with a whole suite of native wetland species," Clatterbuck said.

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Bill: Companies would have to report all data breaches to the state Department of Justice

Continued from Page 1A

Atlanta-based credit reporting agency last September. The data breach compromised private information, such as Social Security and driver's license numbers, of 145 million consumers in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. About 1.7 million Social Security numbers were jeopardized in Oregon alone, according to the state.

Equifax discovered in July that cyber thieves had accessed consumers' names, addresses, birthdates, Social Security numbers and driver's license information, but the breach wasn't reported to consumers until September, according to media reports.

A February letter to U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren,

D-Massachusetts, showed that additional consumer information was exposed, including tax identification numbers, email addresses and additional driver's license information.

The House vote in Oregon came on the same day Equifax disclosed that an additional 2.4 million consumers were exposed in the data breach.

"The Equifax data breach was a shocking reminder of how vulnerable we all are to having our sensitive information compromised and falling victim to identity theft," said Maureen Mahoney, policy analyst for Consumers Union, a division of Consumer Reports. "Identity thieves can ruin a consumer's credit record by opening fraudulent

accounts in their names and running up big bills that go unpaid. By making the security freeze free, Oregon is providing consumers with a powerful safeguard that prevents crooks from doing serious financial damage that can take years to repair."

The bill would require companies to reveal a breach within 45 days unless law enforcement determines doing so would impede a criminal investigation. Holvey and Sen. Floyd Prozanski, another Democrat from Eugene, co-sponsored the legislation.

Companies would have to report all data breaches to the state Department of Justice.

The Capital Bureau is a collaboration between EO Media Group and Pamplin Media Group.