



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian
Hundreds of people gathered at an intersection in downtown Astoria for a gun control rally Saturday.

GATHERING AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

Hundreds in Astoria rally for gun control

By JACK HEFFERNAN
The Daily Astorian

A red Toyota Prius was stopped at a street signal Saturday afternoon at an intersection facing east on Commercial Street by Eighth Street. During the wait, a passenger held a cardboard sign out the window that read “Vote them Out” — an apparent reference to lawmakers who don’t support gun control.

Seconds later, hundreds of protesters at the four corners of the intersection chanted the sign’s message in unison. Demonstrators shared similar messages for more than an hour in chilly, damp weather. The rally, one of several in Oregon, was organized in support of the national March for Our Lives that took place Saturday in Washington, D.C., and across the nation and world.

In lieu of a march, Indivisible North Coast Oregon — the progressive activist group that organized the event — encouraged participants to bring signs and yell chants as some of the drivers passing by honked their horns.

“We’re doing kind of a reverse march,” said Laurie Caplan, one of the group’s leaders. “We stand still and they drive past us.”

In response to a February shooting that killed 17 people at a Florida high school, local students have been attending Indivisible meetings as the group prepared for the rally.

“They thought having a main kid here would be awesome to show it’s not just parents and adults setting this up,” said Azaria Damghani, 14, an Astoria High School student who helped lead a



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Protesters braved inclement weather for over an hour to voice support for gun control.

GUN RETAILERS REACT TO POTENTIAL ASSAULT WEAPONS SALES BAN
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walkout at the school earlier this month against gun violence. “We hope people are finally realizing that these adults have kind of screwed us over. It’s intriguing that these adults are so surprised that we want to speak up.”

Conversations about guns have reached students at other schools throughout Clatsop County as well.

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Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

People used signs and bullhorns to voice their opinions on gun control.

‘I don’t like the impending doom feeling like I could walk into school one day and watch my friends die.’

Leo Van Steenberg, 14
Astoria High School student.

Rape suspect was deported twice before alleged crime

Fabian was detained by ICE outside court

By JACK HEFFERNAN
The Daily Astorian

A Seaside man detained by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement outside Clatsop County Circuit Court earlier this month was deported twice before allegedly raping a teenage girl, according to the federal agency.

Anastacio Eugenio Lopez Fabian, 24, allegedly had sex with the girl several times beginning in 2016, when she was under 14 years old. Seaside police arrested him in February after he allegedly assaulted her. He was released the same day after posting \$25,000 bail.

He has been charged with two counts of second-degree rape, three counts of third-degree rape, fourth-degree assault and harassment. A mandatory minimum sentence of more than six years in prison applies to second-degree rape convictions.

ICE detained him in the courthouse parking lot as he arrived for a hearing. He is in custody at the private Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, Washington, according to the federal agency’s records. Fabian was deported to Guatemala in 2013 and 2014, according to a statement from ICE spokeswoman Carissa



Anastacio Eugenio Lopez Fabian

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Clatsop Community College

Firefighter cadets at Clatsop Community College train for emergencies.

College fire center needs a new brain

Investment planned in a fire simulator for training

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Several hundred professional firefighters, mariners and students go through Clatsop Community College’s Fire Response and Research Center each year to practice fighting propane-fueled, simulated blazes in a series of rooms resembling parts of a ship. The flames are controlled by central computers and sensors that respond to the students’ techniques, extinguishing in the face of proper firefighting and flaring back up after missteps.

The college is preparing to spend nearly \$70,000 to replace the aging brains of the fire simulator.

Kurt Donaldson, the college’s fire science instructor, said that while the building is only through about one-third of its expected 50-year lifespan, the computers that run the simulator are outdated and in need of replacement. If one part of the computer goes down, the entire building can stop working, a safety feature to prevent accidents, he said.

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Nature photographer finds a home in Cannon Beach

New gallery showcases a career’s worth of images

By BRENNA VISSER
The Daily Astorian

Randall Hodges has always loved hiking.

A Eugene native, many of his childhood memories involve fishing and walking the trails with his mom throughout the Pacific Northwest.

“The first time I hiked above treeline, man — I was totally addicted,” he said.

But what he loved equally

EVERYDAY people

as much as taking photos of the beautiful sights. After cresting a timberlined ridge or hiking to a lighthouse at sunrise, he would try to explain to people how much more beautiful these scenes were in person than the photos could show.

“Then I realized I needed to learn how to take a better photo that would explain itself,” Hodges said.

So what if, he thought, he could make his two favorite things his life’s work?



Randall Hodges taking shots of Mount Rainier.

This leap of faith blossomed into a long career that has led Hodges to the North Coast. After decades of

dreaming, earlier this month he finally realized one of his biggest career goals: to open his photo gallery, “Images of

the West” in Cannon Beach.

It was a long and winding road to get here — quite literally. Since beginning his photography career, Hodges has hiked more than 27,000 miles all over the West Coast to get the dramatic nature shots that hang on his wall.

In many ways, hiking was a refuge. It’s where he found peace after quitting his band, which inspired his move to northwestern Washington more than 30 years ago. It’s where he went after he decided to quit his 12-year tenure as a high-end chef in Seattle, a career with which he was growing disillusioned.

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