

RV park: Zoning on property is same as Port of Astoria docks

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Englund Marine & Industrial Supply warehouse and Buoy Beer Co. at a former Bornstein Seafoods plant.

The zoning on the property is the same as the Port of Astoria docks, where log handling and seafood processing facilities operate, and Tongue Point, where there are plans to establish a marine fabrication and repair facility.

Cronin asked that the property by Hampton Inn be rezoned S2 — general development shorelands — where outright permitted uses include charter fishing offices, marine equipment sales, seafood receiving and processing and ship

and boat building, among others. Facilities like hotels, conference centers, housing and eating and drinking establishments are allowed, but as conditional uses.

City staff took his recommendation a step further, proposing instead a switch to the tourist-oriented shorelands zone — S2-A — which covers the land where the hotel was built. The zoning would allow hotels, motels, food stores like bakeries and seafood markets, boat and marine equipment sales and tourist-oriented retail sales stores, among others.

People who spoke against Cronin's application noted that no one knows yet what kind of development might be coming to the property if it were rezoned. They

worried about new buildings that would block views of the river, going against standards outlined in the city's Riverfront Vision Plan.

Commissioner Jan Mitchell and others agreed.

"I'm concerned about making a zone change absent a project," Mitchell said, noting that the Planning Commission is not "under an obligation to make zone changes to make something more salable."

"I haven't heard anything compelling tonight to make this zone change," Commissioner Kent Easom said.

Some commissioners were on the fence, but concluded there were too many questions and concerns.



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

A former RV park near the Hampton Inn in Astoria is vacant.

Washington state's wolf population surge slows, worrying advocates

By NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS
Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. — Growth in Washington state's gray wolf population slowed dramatically last year, raising concerns from an environmental group that says the state should stop killing wolves that prey on livestock.

At the end of 2017, Washington was home to at least 122 wolves, 22 packs and 14 successful breeding pairs, the state Department of Fish and Wildlife said in a report released last week.

That's the highest the population has been since annual surveys started in 2008, the agency said. However, last year's count was up just 6 percent from the minimum of 115 wolves — with 20 packs and 10 breeding pairs — reported at the end of 2016.

By contrast, wolf populations grew at a rate of around 30 percent per year the previous decade.

"The sharp departure from wolf number increases in past years is cause for serious concern," said Amaroq Weiss, wolf advocate at the Center for Biological Diversity. "While population growth hasn't stopped entirely, these modest numbers clearly indicate the state should not kill any more wolves."

Wolves are rebounding in several Western states after being wiped out in the continental U.S. in all but a slice of Minnesota.



Environmentalists are concerned about gray wolves.

But their return has brought contentious discussions among conservationists, ranchers, hunters and others about how the animals should be managed.

In Washington state, Weiss has criticized rule changes last year that allow the state to take quicker action to kill wolves that attack livestock. Environmentalists argue ranchers should take more actions to minimize contact between livestock and wolves.

Washington documented 14 wolves killed in 2017, by a combination of hunting, poaching, vehicle collisions or other causes.

Three of those wolves were killed by members of the Colville Indian Tribe in a

limited hunting season allowed on the reservation. Wolves are a protected species elsewhere in the state and cannot be hunted for sport.

Another three were designated problem wolves and killed by the state.

Ben Maletzke, a statewide wolf specialist with the state wildlife department, noted his agency employed an array of nonlethal strategies last year, including cost-sharing agreements with 37 ranchers who took steps to protect their livestock. State assistance included range riders to check on livestock, guard dogs, lighting, flagging for fences, and data on certain packs' movements.

"We know that some level of conflict is inevitable between wolves and livestock sharing the landscape," Maletzke said. "Our goal is to minimize that conflict as the gray wolf population continues to recover."

Maletzke said five of the 22 known packs that existed in Washington at some point during 2017 were involved in at least one livestock death.

The agency confirmed wolves killed at least eight cattle and injured five others last year. It processed two claims totaling \$3,700 to compensate livestock producers for their losses in 2017.

Wolves were wiped out in Washington early in the last century and began migrating back from neighboring areas earlier this century.

Hammond man pleads not guilty after allegedly bribing sex abuse victim

By JACK HEFFERNAN
The Daily Astorian

A Hammond fisherman known as "Sturgeon Paul" pleaded not guilty Tuesday to charges of bribing and tampering with a sex abuse victim.

Paul Angelo Leitch, 48, allegedly facilitated a meeting between Dennis Sturgell — a well-known Hammond fisherman accused of several sex crimes — and the victim's father soon after Sturgell posted \$50,000 bail and was released from jail.

Both Leitch and Sturgell have been charged with two counts of tampering with a witness and two counts of bribing a witness.

Oregon Assistant Attorney General Erin Greenawald is prosecuting both cases, along

with the Clatsop County District Attorney's Office.

Prosecutors presented evidence in February claiming Sturgell had met with the victim's father. During the meeting, he allegedly offered \$5,000 to "make the case go away" and said he would hire a "dream team of attorneys" that would "dig up dirt" on the victim and anyone else involved in the case.

Phone records revealed that Leitch interacted with both Sturgell and the victim's father on several occasions in the days leading up

to the alleged meeting. After allegedly hearing the offer from her father, the victim contacted the Clatsop County Sheriff's Office.



Paul Angelo Leitch

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Fire displaces seven residents at Seaside apartment complex

The Daily Astorian

A fire inside a Seaside apartment complex early Tuesday displaced seven residents.

Fire personnel were quickly able to extinguish the small fire at the multiunit complex on the 380 block of Edgewood Street, according to a press release from the city. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

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ELECTION FORUM

WHEN:
7 p.m. Tuesday, April 3

WHERE:
Astoria High School auditorium,
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Presented by the Astoria Branch of the American Association of University Women and The Daily Astorian

Come listen to and ask questions of primary candidates for Clatsop County Commission, state House of Representatives and U.S. Congress

Questions? Bartell.Liz@gmail.com or 503-200-8605

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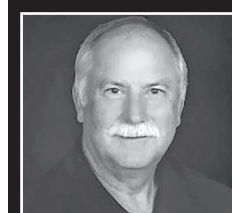


John R. Alcantara - Funeral Director

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Seaside: 220 N. Holladay 503.738.6622
www.hughes-ransom.com

Q: What funeral benefits are available for U.S. military veterans and is there anything I should do ahead of time to make it easier for my family at the time of my death?

A: A great deal of time can be saved when survivors can provide a funeral director with a copy of the deceased veteran's honorable discharge from the U.S. Military (aka: DD-214). Generally speaking, honorably discharged veterans are eligible for interment (traditional burial or inurnment) in a national cemetery, a burial marker, burial flag, military honors and presidential service certificate. Please contact us for further details regarding these and other possible V.A. benefits that could apply.



Steve Putman Medicare Products
503-440-1076
Licensed in Oregon and Washington
putmanagency@gmail.com

Q: I hear Medicare will be sending out new Medicare Cards with different numbers. When can I expect mine to arrive and is there anything I should know about the card?

A: The new cards will still be red, white and blue. The current Medicare number will be replaced with an 11-character, randomly assigned number. Destroy your old card to assure your identify will be safe. Oregon is scheduled to receive their cards April-June. Washington will begin receiving their cards after June 2018.



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Q: How can I back up my data?

A: Connect an external hard drive to your computer.
In Windows 10, click the Windows Start Button, then Settings, Update & Security, Backup then Add a drive. Select the drive you just connected.
In Windows 7, click Start, Control Panel, then Backup & Restore, then Set up Backup. Select your drive.
On your Mac, click Go, then Applications then click Time Machine. Select the hard drive you connected.
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Q: Our family has just acquired a horse for the kids. Can you help us with how to feed our new pasture pet?

A: Yes! You can stop by anytime for feeding questions. We are offering our Horse Owner's Workshop on Tuesday, September 19 at 6pm at the store. Bring your questions for our feed specialist from Purina Feed and learn about feeding, hoof care, and prevention of equine ulcers. Our Horse Owner's Workshop is free and offers an opportunity to ask specific questions about feeding animals with special dietary needs. Information is geared for seasoned horse owners, new owners and those in between. We will have light refreshments, door prizes and coupons. Please call the store to guarantee your spot.



ASTORIA CHIROPRACTIC
Barry Sears, D.C.
503-325-3311
2935 Marine Drive Astoria, Oregon

Q: Should I use heat or cold?

A: If you hurt, especially in a joint, use ice; it reduces inflammation and pain and shortens healing time. You can get a burn from ice just like with heat, so don't leave it on for more than 20 minutes. Most problems get better more quickly with ice. Heat feels good, but may seriously make problems worse. As long as there is pain and/or swelling, continue ice; it can be done as often as once an hour. Would you heat a cut? No, because it would keep bleeding—that is what happens inside where you can't see it.