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ONE DOLLAR

PLAYING CATCH-UP



Workers monitor maintenance to a sewer line in Warrenton.

Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Warrenton raises rates and fees

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Fee and rate increases didn't just dominate a Warrenton City Commission meeting Tuesday night — they were the only business items on the agenda besides a presentation by Recology Western Oregon that was also, ultimately, about recycling rates going up again.

None of the increases — from water rates to land use application fees — were unusual for a city to consider, especially during the busy budget season.

But while Warrenton has been on the path to increase rates like sewer and water for some time, many of the fees under discussion Tuesday hadn't been touched in years.

Warrenton's unofficial motto is "Open for business." But as the city continues to grow, as its infrastructure ages and as costs increase along with calls for service, city leaders say they need to take steps to boost revenue and make sure this tagline doesn't change to, "Closed for business."



A Warrenton public works employee fills a truck with water from a fire hydrant.

Under the slew of first readings conducted by city commissioners Tuesday, moorage rates are on the rise at the Warrenton and Hammond marinas. Launch fees are going up by \$5 at both facilities and overnight camping rates are going up by \$10. There is a new \$300 fine for offensive littering — mostly aimed at people who dump fish guts in

the marina — as well as a new facilities use fee.

"This has kind of been long overdue," Harbormaster Jane Sweet said. She has been with the city for more than 13 years and has seen little more than annual rates raised during that time.

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ONE WING



Neal Maine

The red-winged blackbird will be Cannon Beach's official bird.

Red-winged blackbird recognized in Cannon Beach

By BRENNA VISSER
The Daily Astorian

CANNON BEACH — After months in limbo, the red-winged blackbird will take the title of Cannon Beach's official city bird.

City councilors brought the proposal to a work session Tuesday after voting to postpone a proclamation last month that would have promoted the medium-sized, black-and-red songbird. The idea was to give the public a chance to raise any concerns over the pick, or to suggest a different species.

But alas — the tufted puffin lobby was silent.

"Is there anyone here on behalf of the puffins?" City Councilor George Vetter asked with a smile.

Nominating the red-winged blackbird was brought to the City Council in April by Neal Maine, a longtime nature photographer and representative of the 12 Days of Earth Day committee. The group wanted the city to recognize an official bird to honor the 100th anniversary of the

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Coast Guard leader was dedicated to Astoria

Nelson died last week

By JACK HEFFERNAN
The Daily Astorian

Like many who retire to Astoria, Edward Nelson Jr. often stared out the window of his home, relishing the view of the Columbia River. Nonetheless, he couldn't sit idly by for too long.

"He had a very active mind," said David Phillips, a longtime fellow member of the Columbia Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees who developed a friendship with Nelson. "He just was not known to sit around."

Nelson died last week at 87. He served in the Coast Guard for more than 36 years — including a stop at Air Station Astoria as a commander — and his footprint could be seen in many local organizations.



Edward Nelson Jr.

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Seaside councilor questions tsunami model

Horning wants other factors considered

By BRENNA VISSER
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — Seaside City Councilor Tom Horning said the city should consider more than just a computer simulation released earlier this week by Oregon State University when it looks at bridge replacement.

The model found certain bridges and roads in Seaside will have higher mortality rates in an earthquake and tsunami.

"I think the OSU modelers have

done a nice job with their models, but their conclusions need to be considered along with other issues," Horning, a geologist, said. "I think they are valuing the population densities too aggressively."

Researchers found the bridge on Broadway Street over Neawanna Creek would result in the most fatalities and should be prioritized for improvement. Other critical locations are the two bridges on 12th Street, the bridge on Sundquist Road and Ocean Vista Drive in the Cove.

These bridges and roads were identified as high priorities to retrofit not because of structural integrity issues or age, but because of



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian
An Oregon State University computer model flagged several bridges and roads in Seaside that could pose problems in an earthquake and tsunami.

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