



Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

From left, Steve Burke, Randy Bohrer and Dennis Vinson review plans for the Prairie Cemetery in Knappa.

Seafood processor plans worker housing

A dormitory in Warrenton

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Desperate for housing, Pacific Seafood wants to turn a warehouse it owns in Warrenton into a dormitory for workers.

The Warrenton Planning Commission approved a development code amendment Thursday night that lays the groundwork for the seafood processor to create housing in a warehouse on industrial land near Carruthers Park and the dog park.

The decision, if approved by the City Commission in November, could open the door for other companies to do the same.

Lack of housing has become a major issue for employers in Clatsop County, who say they have trouble attracting and retaining employees because workers can't find places to live, or can't afford the places they do find.

Recently, some companies have decided to provide housing.

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■■■■■ ELECTION 2018 ■■■■■

Barber and Chapman vie for Seaside mayoral seat

Tsunami preparedness, housing are issues

By R.J. MARX
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — Mayor Jay Barber is stressing continuity as he seeks election in November to the post he was appointed to in 2016, while his challenger, John Chapman, is offering what he calls a common-sense leadership approach.

Barber, a former city councilor who filled the vacant seat of former Mayor Don Larson, has lived in Seaside for 11 years. The former president of Warner Pacific University and pastor of a community church in Red Bluff, California, Barber and his wife, Jan, have four grown children and five grandsons.

Chapman, owner and operator of KSWB Productions LLC/Radio Clatsop, is a 27-year

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Jay Barber



John Chapman

Prairie Cemetery in Knappa gets a retouch

Nonprofit leads a two-year renovation

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

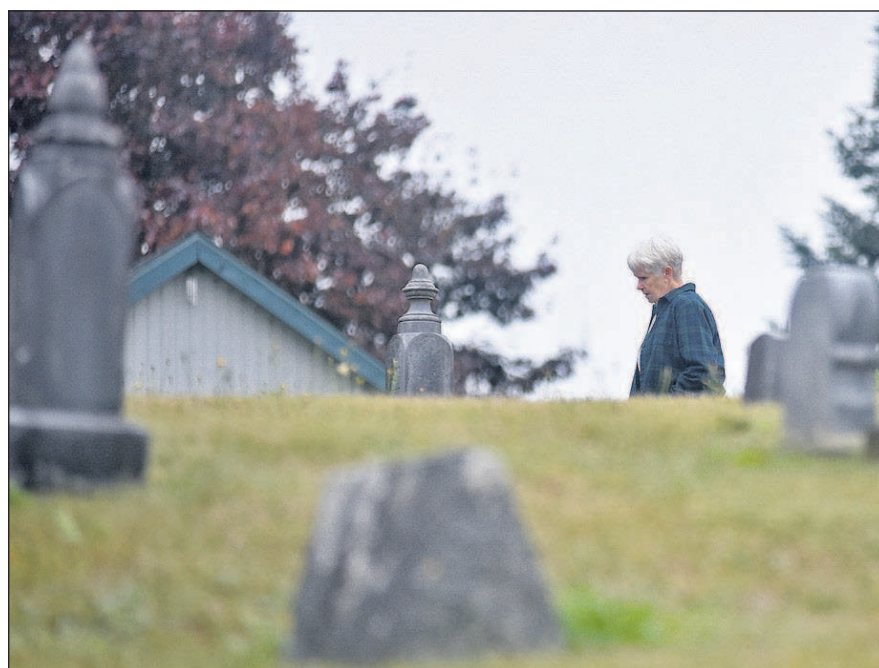
KNAPPA — On a rolling hillside along Knappa Dock Road is the Prairie Cemetery, a 140-year-old burial ground holding several generations and more than 800 locally connected people.

The nonprofit Prairie Cemetery Association of Knappa has turned a project to replace a flagpole at the burial grounds into a two-year renovation to add a parking lot, pavilion, interpretive center, fencing and veteran's memorial.

The Prairie Cemetery dates back to 1878, when local pioneer Daniel C. Ramey donated a 1-acre plot to Knappa, according to an account in The Daily Astorian. The cemetery has since grown down the hillside from Knappa Dock Road to encompass about 3 acres, including several distinct sections for early pioneers, prominent families and plots for cremated remains.

The cemetery association, started in the early 2000s to support maintenance, has over the past three years built a new sign, repaired or straightened 40 headstones, subsidized new headstones for unmarked graves and contracted a groundskeeper.

Steve Burke, the association's secretary and, like most volunteers, a family member of many buried at the cemetery, said the association was looking to replace a flagpole farther away from power lines when volunteers started thinking bigger. The plan evolved to moving the flagpole



Karen Burke looks at a headstone.



Steve Burke wipes away dirt from a headstone.

to the low ground in the middle of the cemetery, while adding a parking lot and community gathering place.

"We found that people don't want to be buried in the low part of the cemetery, because they think that there's going to be water entering the graves," Burke said.

With an ideal location for a community gathering place amid the graves, the association started raising money. Since last year, the association has gathered more than \$30,000 toward a goal of upward of \$50,000 to complete the restoration and add the amenities. It received a nearly \$6,900 grant in July from the state Commission on Historic Cemeteries.

Numerous donations have streamed in from current and former community residents with family buried at the cemetery. Local businesses and volunteers have voluntarily excavated for the parking lot, provided rock and hauled it in.

Among those buried are around 100 veterans, including at least two from the Civil War. The association hopes to build a pedestal honoring veterans, Burke said. Under the pavilion's cover, the

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No easy solution for Cannon Beach bunnies

City has few options for infestation

By BRENNIA VISSER
The Daily Astorian

CANNON BEACH — Curbing a growing bunny population may be more complicated than city officials anticipated.

Last month, residents in Tolovana asked the city to address a bunny infestation they claim is destroying gardens and blanketing yards with thick layers of

rabbit pellets.

Since then, the city has researched ways to possibly handle the population, but has found the fluffy "Tolovana bunnies" appear to slip between the cracks of almost every state and local agency.

"Nobody is in charge of bunnies," City Manager Bruce St. Denis said.

Because they are feral, the bunnies have no classifications or protections under the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, spokeswoman Michelle Dennehy said. They aren't considered livestock, so the Department of Agriculture doesn't claim

them, either.

"If they were brush rabbits, ODFW would be involved," St. Denis said.

It was against fish and wildlife's code for the bunnies to be released into the wild, Dennehy said, and so there is no place the city can legally relocate them.

Another solution could be trapping them and bringing them to refuges like the Oregon Humane Society, St. Denis said. But local animal control only serves cats, dogs and limited livestock in unincorporated Clatsop County.



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

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One of the 'Tolovana Bunnies.'

