



Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian  
The rock formation looms large in the background as waves crash along Cannon Beach.

## Police delay plans to move homeless

Some campers claim disabilities

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ  
The Daily Astorian

Astoria police will delay moving homeless people out of the woods.

Officers had planned to begin clearing camps today after posting cleanup notices and talking to campers last week. But police have delayed the sweeps until Friday after two homeless people camping in the woods, claiming disabilities, sent notices to the city under the Fair Housing Act. They asked for more time to clean up their camps and find somewhere else to go, Police Chief Geoff Spalding told the City Council.

While the federal law is not necessarily applicable in this situation, Spalding said, "We don't want to get in the business of making determinations if somebody has a disability or not, and it's entirely possible they do."

Both homeless people told police they would likely be moved out of the woods sooner than Friday, but Spalding decided that if they were going to extend the deadline for two people, they might as well extend it for everyone who received notices. Police had gone out last week to tag roughly a dozen sites identified in September. Of the 12 sites, nine were occupied.

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## Businesses want help with bridge project

Disruption along the waterfront

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ  
The Daily Astorian

Business owners at the base of 11th Street pleaded with the Astoria City Council for help Monday night, saying foot traffic and profits have plummeted now that major construction work on three waterfront bridges is underway.

"We understand that this project must go on but — help!" said Karen Allen, who with her husband, Steve, owns Astoria Brewing Co. and the Pier 11 building.

The Allens estimate they will see a loss of \$100,000 to \$200,000 for one business

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# Who visits Haystack Rock?

## New survey delves into where visitors come from and how often

By BRENNNA VISSER  
The Daily Astorian

CANNON BEACH — A recent survey shows visitors at Haystack Rock like to come often and from places outside of Oregon.

The survey, facilitated by the federally and state-funded Oregon Sea Grant, was conducted over six weeks this summer to study the demographics of those who visit the 235-foot sea stack each year.

While Haystack Rock Awareness Program has tracked the number of visitors for years — which has now topped more than 90,000 — this is the first time the group has seen a better look at the demographics.

"We really wanted to learn about why visitors came here," said Melissa Keyser, program director of the Haystack Rock Awareness Program. "We wanted to ask them who they are and figure out how well we were educating them, so we can learn how to better engage with them."

Over the course of the summer, Dylan Rozansky, the marine science scholar chosen by the awareness program to conduct the study, interviewed people at the beach and at educational events, and collected data from online surveys. He asked beachgoers questions about where they traveled from, whether they had



Haystack Rock is the site of nesting grounds for several endangered bird species.

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Melissa Keyser | program director of the Haystack Rock Awareness Program

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# Wendy's to start building soon in Warrenton

## Company hopes to hire 50 people

By EDWARD STRATTON  
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The owners of a proposed Wendy's in Warrenton hope to begin construction by Thanksgiving, hire about 50 people and open by mid-March.

Group W AKSAN Warrenton recently closed on about one-half of an acre in the Warrenton Highlands shopping center at the southwest corner of Ensign Lane and U.S. Highway 101. The site will

be Steve Harris' 26th Wendy's franchise.

Harris' company runs 25 other restaurants in the Pacific Northwest and is part of AKSAN United Fortune Inc., a chain of more than 60 Wendy's restaurants throughout the West. He was attracted to Warrenton by the year-round local population and central location in a large shopping center, he said.

Construction is expected to take about 14 weeks, said Jason Graber, a facilities coordinator with AKSAN United Fortune. The 2,400-square-foot store will include seating for 40, an outdoor patio and nine parking spots.

About two-thirds of Wendy's customers will come through the drive-thru ringing the property, Harris said.

The restaurant will begin recruiting up to 50 employees starting early next year, and staffing will eventually settle in at around 40, Harris said.

Finding workers will likely be difficult, with Clatsop County and the state at the lowest rate of unemployment since at least the 1970s. Other companies have reported issues finding workers, and workers have had difficulty finding affordable housing.

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AKSAN United Fortune Inc.

A 2,400-square-foot Wendy's restaurant planned for the Warrenton Highlands shopping center will include a narrow rectangular restaurant with seating for 40, an outdoor patio and a drive-thru ringing the property.

