

A regional jail has released inmates to save space for ICE detainees

Critics have sued the jail

By CONRAD WILSON
Oregon Public Broadcasting

A regional jail in The Dalles that houses detainees for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has suggested local sheriffs keep their “numbers low” in the jail to make room for immigrant detainees.

The Northern Oregon Regional Corrections Facility — or NORCOR — has housed immigration detainees since 1999, when the facility first opened. Critics of that process say it violates Oregon’s sanctuary law and have sued the jail.

Documents included in that lawsuit give potential insight into how NORCOR allocates space for ICE detainees.

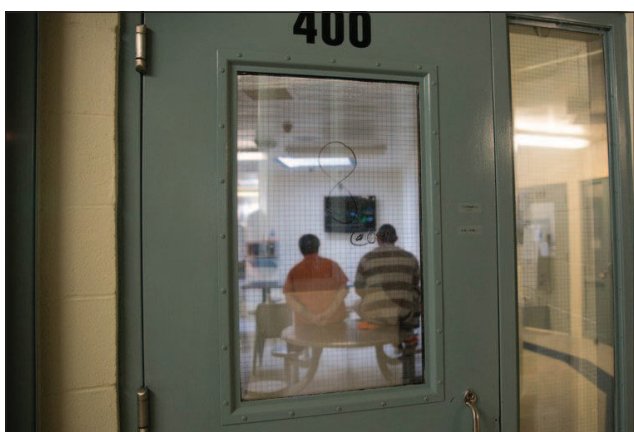
In a Sept. 29, 2016 email, then-NORCOR Lt. Dan Lindhorst wrote ICE to ask that they increase their number of detainees at the jail.

“I see this morning we are down to 26 ICE detainees,” Lindhorst wrote. “Could you please see if you can get these numbers up. We have been keeping the county numbers low to make room for the 40 detainees that you had asked for. If you are not going to use us to that extent, please let me know that as well so I can advise my sheriffs.”

Less than three hours later, an ICE official wrote back indicating detainees would soon arrive from the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, Washington.

“Tacoma is working on vetting more detainees to go to NORCOR,” ICE official Larry Peterson wrote. “I will let you know when they are ready for transfer.”

“Thanks, I have been getting pressed for people,” Lindhorst wrote back.



Conrad Wilson/Oregon Public Broadcasting

Two ICE detainees sit on top of a metal table watching television at a regional jail in The Dalles in 2017.

“No problem,” Peterson wrote. “I will keep hounding them for more.”

Lindhorst has since been promoted to NORCOR’s commander. He declined to comment Thursday, citing the pending litigation.

NORCOR is the regional jail for Hood River, Gilliam, Sherman and Wasco counties. It also contracts with Benton County to house inmates.

But in recent years, the jail has become particularly reliant on funding from its increasingly lucrative contract with ICE. Last year, the federal agency paid NORCOR more than \$900,000 to house detainees, according to the jail’s budget documents. That’s more than 11 percent of the jail’s 2017–18 budget.

The county’s contract with ICE doesn’t guarantee how much the federal agency will use NORCOR. But in 2016, then-jail administrator Bryan Brandenburg told Oregon Public Broadcasting that ICE does “their best to keep our numbers up a little bit.”

In 2016, Wasco County failed to continue a property tax levy to fund the jail, making the jail even more reliant on its contract with ICE.

“Huge,” Gilliam County Sheriff Gary Bettencourt

said when describing the problem if the jail’s ICE contract went away. “It would be a huge problem.”

Bettencourt said the jail uses a matrix system when the inmate population starts to reach capacity. He said there’s a “very low number of people we matrix.”

Historically, the jail’s population has been slightly more than 200 adult inmates and detainees.

“If we get over that, we initiate the matrix system that just starts pushing people out the door,” Bettencourt said. “It’s kind of a grading system; somebody who’s not a threat to the community or themselves, so it’s got to be a pretty low-level crime.”

He said an inmate’s criminal history is also taken into consideration before that person is let out to make room for more serious offenders.

“We think our local bed numbers are adequate,” Bettencourt said.

He said there’s never been a time when the ICE contract has prevented someone arrested locally from getting booked into the jail.

“We’re never not able to take a local person,” he said.

The sheriffs of Hood River, Sherman and Wasco counties did not immediately return requests for comment.

Hate crimes on the rise in Oregon

Crimes up by 40 percent

By ERICKA CRUZ
GUEVARRA
Oregon Public Broadcasting

Every year, the FBI releases national hate crime statistics.

According to that data, hate crimes in Oregon are up by 40 percent from 2016 to 2017.

But there are limits to the data.

Of the 214 Oregon agencies that participate in the FBI’s hate crime tracking program, just 29 agencies submitted incident reports for 2017. And it’s widely understood that hate crimes go underreported nationwide. Oregon is no exception.

“The data is grossly incomplete and inaccurate,” said Arjun Singh Sethi, a law professor at Vanderbilt University and editor of American Hate: Survivors Speak Out, a book

that includes interviews with the two young women at the center of the fatal MAX train stabbing in Portland last year.

“And that’s because the FBI data relies on voluntary reporting by local police. It’s not mandatory,” he said.

The data shows 146 hate crimes reported in 2017, compared to 104 in 2016.

A majority of jurisdictions in Oregon reported zero hate crimes to the FBI.

Among them was Clackamas County, where at least two known hate crimes were prosecuted last year, according to the Clackamas County District Attorney’s office.

Political advocacy groups that work with politically underrepresented communities were quick to dismiss the data as at least partially illegitimate because of such omissions — and disagreement with law enforcement over how hate crimes are classified.

FBI data shows Oregon

had zero documented murder or non-negligent manslaughter hate crimes in 2017.

Kai Wiggins, a policy analyst with the Arab American Institute in Washington, D.C., said that’s despite the high-profile murders of two people on a Portland MAX train last summer.

The alleged assailant, Jeremy Christian, faces aggravated murder charges for killing two and stabbing a third.

But the Portland Police Bureau, which submitted 18 known hate crimes to the FBI in 2017, said it believes the hate crime charges against the MAX train assailant are for the intimidation of the two girls who were allegedly berated with racial slurs on the train. One of them was wearing a hijab.

Christian faces just two counts of intimidation for his actions toward the two young women. Those are hate crime charges in the state of Oregon.

Ecola Seafood Restaurant and Market to reopen after fire in Cannon Beach

The Daily Astorian

CANNON BEACH — Ecola Seafood Restaurant and Market will have a grand reopening on Nov. 30 after an electrical fire closed its doors in July.

The market, a family-owned and -operated business in Cannon Beach for 25 years, was forced to close for four months for renovations due to severe smoke damage.

After missing most of the peak tourism season, the family

is hoping to welcome back customers just in time for Thanksgiving with a soft opening is scheduled for Wednesday.

The grand reopening will be held 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Nov. 30 and feature food and free giveaways.

Charlotte Mae Patching

Astoria

Nov. 3, 1927 — Nov. 13, 2018

Charlotte Patching was born to Willis and Myrtle Deal in Longview, Washington, on Nov. 3, 1927. Charlotte married Duane Patching on July 17, 1946, and they enjoyed 60 wonderful years together.

Charlotte was an active member of the First United Methodist Church, loved baking, enjoyed car rides, spent hours tending flowers and cherished her friendships in Alpha Iota Sorority.

Music was Charlotte’s lifelong passion. It’s the way she connected with people. Whether she was playing piano with an ensemble in church, accompanying a nursing home service, leading Christmas carols at her annual Cookie and Caroling party, or playing polkas on the accordion beside a campfire, Charlotte’s music always brightened the mood.

Her natural talent was amazing, and her greatest fan was her husband. She played by ear and read music. You could call out any song — hymn, oldie, country, patriotic — and Charlotte would play it. If it was pitched too high or low, she’d transpose it and encourage everyone to sing along. Her talents and personality at the piano were unparalleled.

Her overwhelming shyness melted away when she sat at a piano, and she loved to have friends and family around her while she played. Towards the end of her earthly life, she would ask caregivers to wheel her to the spinet where

she would play “Jesus Loves Me” and “You Are My Sunshine.” Charlotte and her piano provided so many hours of entertainment. The only forbidden song was “Grandma Got Run

Over by a Reindeer”!

While attending Rainier High School, Charlotte worked as a telephone operator and stapler in a box assembly plant. She graduated from high school in 1945, and moved to Astoria in 1959, after purchasing Miles Grocery. Charlotte later worked for Teamsters Local 569/58, and retired in 1984.

Charlotte went peacefully to her heavenly home on Nov. 13, 2018. She was preceded in death by her husband, Duane, her parents, two brothers and two sisters. She is survived by daughter, Diane (Walt) Curs; son, James (Jan) Patching; daughter, Dorothy Leonhardt (Paul Winiarz); grandchildren, Dean Fisher, Tami (Collin) Stelzig, Amy (Jeremy) Bubar, Andrew (Rebecca) Patching and Kari (Derek) Smith; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Remembrances may be made to the First United Methodist Church, Astoria, or the Shriners Hospital for Children.

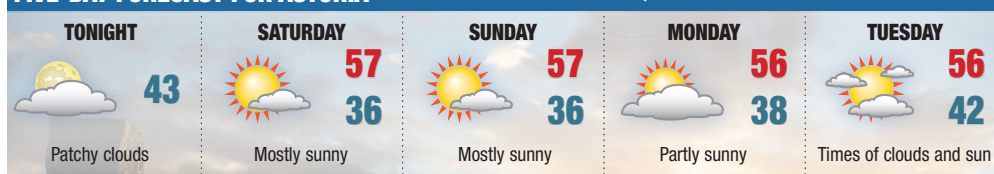
Please join in Charlotte’s celebration of life at First United Methodist Church on Sunday, Nov. 18, at 2 p.m.

Caldwell’s Luce-Layton Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements. Please sign our guest book at caldwellsmortuary.com



Charlotte Patching

FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA



ALMANAC

Astoria through Thursday.

Temperatures	High/Low
High/low	56°/40°
Normal high/low	54°/40°
Record high	66° in 2004
Record low	17° in 1955

Precipitation	Amount
Thursday	0.00"
Month to date	2.07"
Normal month to date	5.15"
Year to date	48.80"
Normal year to date	51.37"

SUN AND MOON

Sunset tonight	4:42 p.m.
Sunrise Saturday	7:19 a.m.
Moonrise today	2:06 p.m.
Moonset today	none

Phase	Date
Full	Nov 22
Last	Nov 29
New	Dec 6
First	Dec 15

UNDER THE SKY

Tonight’s Sky: At 2.5 million light-years away, the Andromeda Galaxy is high overhead.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

TOMORROW’S TIDES

Time	High	2:18 a.m.	Low
9:03 a.m.	7.6 ft.	2:18 a.m.	1.6 ft.
8:54 p.m.	6.6 ft.	3:12 p.m.	2.7 ft.

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Sat.	City	Today	Sat.
Atlanta	55 39 s	63 41 s	Olympia	54 35 r	51 28 s
Boston	45 36 r	49 33 pc	Pendleton	48 29 pc	42 24 s
Chicago	41 30 pc	36 24 sn	Portland	56 44 pc	55 36 s
Denver	61 27 pc	32 16 sf	Roseburg	58 42 pc	60 39 s
Des Moines	45 30 pc	32 16 sn	Salem	59 38 pc	59 31 s
Detroit	39 33 c	39 25 sn	Seaside	56 42 pc	57 34 s
El Paso	64 38 s	68 39 pc	Spokane	42 24 pc	39 21 s
Fairbanks	18 11 pc	22 15 i	Springfield	57 38 pc	59 33 s
Honolulu	83 74 c	82 71 sh	Vancouver	57 40 pc	53 32 s
Indianapolis	39 27 pc	42 32 c	North Bend	60 42 pc	61 41 s
Kansas City	54 35 s	40 20 c			
Las Vegas	69 48 pc	70 47 pc			
Los Angeles	75 52 pc	71 52 pc			
Memphis	58 41 pc	65 44 s			
Miami	76 64 pc	81 69 pc			
Nashville	55 32 s	62 51 s			
New Orleans	63 46 s	69 52 s			
New York	46 36 r	47 37 pc			
Oklahoma City	63 38 s	55 29 pc			
Philadelphia	45 34 c	47 34 s			
St. Louis	45 31 c	47 30 c			
Salt Lake City	54 34 s	46 27 pc			
San Francisco	66 44 pc	62 44 pc			
Seattle	56 42 r	54 34 s			
Washington, DC	48 37 pc	49 37 s			

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

MONDAY
Seaside City Council, 6 p.m., workshop regarding new Seaside School District projects, 989 Broadway.
Astoria City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

LOTTERIES

OREGON	Thursday’s Lucky Lines: 04-06-11-16-FREE-20-23-26-31	Thursday’s Keno: 01-09-10-13-22-30-39-41-43-48-49-50-51-53-57-61-66-72-74-75
Thursday’s Pick 4:	1 p.m.: 5-6-1-7	
	4 p.m.: 1-3-0-6	
	7 p.m.: 6-5-3-3	
	10 p.m.: 2-8-2-1	
	WASHINGTON	Thursday’s Match 4: 02-08-10-20
	Thursday’s Daily Game: 8-7-4	

OBITUARY POLICY

The Daily Astorian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior.

Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at www.dailyastorian.com/forms/obits, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Daily Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria. For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

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