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After the big one, the Oregon Coast will need to get supplies by sea

Scouting landing sites on the beach

By BRENNA VISSER The Daily Astorian

tarting this winter, emergency managers will work with the Navy to find locations on the Oregon Coast where supplies can be landed after a major earthquake and tsunami.

The project came out of the Cascadia Rising exercise in 2016, which highlighted issues the coast would likely experience trying to resupply after a disaster. Most roads to the coast will likely be damaged and almost all airports — including the Astoria Regional Airport in Warrenton — are in the tsunami inundation zone.

"One of our challenges is the location of our airport," said Tiffany Brown, the Clatsop County emergency manager. "We have very limited real estate with that kind of planning in mind."

Clatsop and Lincoln counties are the first to work with the Navy and the Oregon Military Department to identify and map out landing sites on beaches. Initially, the military's job would be to bring fuel and public works equipment on an amphibious type of hovercraft.

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Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

ABOVE: The USS Portland docks at the Port of Astoria in April. BELOW: The USS Portland pulls into the Port. The Navy will likely be critical in getting supplies to the coast after a disaster.

'THE END GOAL IS THAT OUR COMMUNITY WILL RECOVER, REBUILD AND CARRY ON. SO HAVING ALL THIS PLANNING IN PLACE MAKES SURE THAT MY LITTLE COMMUNITIES ON THE BEAUTIFUL COAST WILL SURVIVE.'



A new hotel wins city approval

Partnership between Buoy Beer, Adrift Hotel

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ

The Daily Astorian

Plans by the developers of Buoy Beer Co. and the Adrift Hotel to turn a former anchovy processing plant into a 40-room hotel over the Columbia River received approval Tuesday night from the Astoria Planning Commission.

Work on the hotel, which will be located at the base of Ninth Street next door to Buoy Beer, could begin as early as April, said Tiffany Turner, the CEO of Adrift Hotels Social Purpose Corp. in Long Beach, Washington.

Parking was the only sticking point for several planning commissioners, but they concluded that parking availability in and around downtown is a larger problem that should be tackled outside of one project. The Astoria Downtown Historic District Association is still working to complete a downtown parking study.

Surrounding businesses and property owners are also worried about the impact on parking, but support the hotel project — Buoy Beer has been a good neighbor, one adjoining property owner said.

The area, which includes a mix of twohour limit and no-limit parking spots, is already heavily used by people who work downtown, as well as by visitors. A new dialysis center is under construction between Sixth Street and Seventh Street near Buoy Beer, building over what was once a large public parking lot.

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Lawmakers look to ban drilling

Offshore moratorium would be permanent

By PARIS ACHEN
Oregon Capital Bureau

State legislators this year want to permanently prohibit oil and gas drilling off the Oregon Coast, although no one has shown an interest in poking a hole in the coastal floor.

Despite a call from the Trump administration last year to open up the waters to drilling, the industry itself has shown no serious interest.

"At this time, there is not a lot of chomping at the bit to look at production off the coast of Oregon," said Kevin Slagle, a spokesman for Western States Petroleum Association.

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Life in a measles outbreak

Canceled parties, doctor visits in a parking lot

By MOLLY SOLOMON
Oregon Public Broadcasting

Patients in Washington state who visit The Vancouver Clinic are greeted with free face masks and pumps of hand sanitizer.

A large sign outside urgent care alerts patients who have measles symptoms — say a runny nose or a high fever — to put on a mask before entering the waiting room.

"If you haven't been

immunized or don't know, we'd like you to wear a mask," said Marcia Sparling, the clinic's medical director.

Two of her facilities are among more than three dozen locations where people may have been exposed to measles. Other places include an Ikea, Costco and a Portland Trail Blazers game.

Sparling says the clinic recently created a measles task force that meets daily. Sometimes, doctors and nurses see patients in the parking lot to avoid contamination. They're also asking patients with measles symptoms to come later in the day

to avoid spreading the illness during busy hours.

"We're trying to be as careful as we can because we'd like to try to shut down this infection chain,"

Sparling said.

The outbreak started in southwest Washington's Clark County, but has been spreading. One case has been confirmed across the river in Portland and another has been identified in Seattle. Health officials say they suspect another case linked to the outbreak in Deschutes County.

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Molly Solomon/Oregon Public Broadcasting

Vancouver, Wash., resident Megan Jasurta holds her 11-week old son, Tristan. During the measles outbreak, she hasn't left the house with Tristan, who is too young to be vaccinated.

