Loggers: Annual dedication will be held May 11

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The Camp 18 Loggers Museum was founded in the 1970s by Maurie Clark and Gordon Smith, former owners of Camp 18 Restaurant. The museum became a popular spot to stop on the way to the coast, marked by a 160-foot spar tree and a growing collection of donated logging equipment from years past.

"We were forgetting what our guys looked like who passed away," said Mark Standley, a logging safety consultant and an organizer behind the addition of the memorial. "We sat around on a deck of logs wondering, 'What can we do to preserve these guys' memories?"

The idea was to put some logs out with aluminum tags memorializing late loggers, he said. But after receiving some large donations, the project soon expanded into a small building.

The entrance to the memorial is framed by a large grappling hook, each end anchored in twin stone pillars. Inside a heavy set of double doors is a bronze cast of a timber faller — modeled after the late Steve Boudreau, who worked for Morisse Logging Co. in Astoria for 20 years — chainsawing through a tree trunk.

On either side of the statue are a series of wooden aisles, each filled



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

The memorial at Camp 18 features photographs of loggers who died from natural causes (pictured here) and those who lost their lives on the job.

with memorials of families who have worked in the industry. The innermost aisles are dedicated to those who have died on the job.

"We're running out of room," said Harve Dethlefs, the owner of Bighorn Logging Corp. in Banks and a board member for the memorial.

About 350 loggers have been memorialized so far, with another 30 or so plaques added each year, Standley said. With space running low, he's had the unenviable task of asking families to consolidate

their memorials as more of the fallen are added to the walls.

Interspersed with the memorials throughout the museum are tin hats, axes, climbing spikes and other tools of the trade. In one corner is a memorial to the family of Shawn Teevin, a local industry magnate whose brother and father both died in logging accidents.

"We get hordes of people from the restaurant, so it'd be nice to have something more visible," Dethlefs said. The museum hired Astoria-based firm Chadbourne + Doss Architects to come up with the design of the new memorial and museum. The firm has previously worked on the Alderbrook Station and Red Building in Astoria.

"They were very interested in going modern and showcasing newer lumber technologies," Daren Doss said.

His firm presented several designs, from which the board chose a long, gabled hall reminiscent of agrarian sheds in the region. It has a

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Mark Standley | a logging safety consultant and an organizer behind the addition of the memorial

flexible, free-standing interior for an expanded memorial, museum, library and meeting space, and a large fireplace on one side.

The new hall would face the highway for maximum visibility and approximate the height of the existing museum, the two buildings linked by walking paths. Below the east side would be a covered area for events overlooking an outdoor fire pit and a field behind.

The project is in the conditional use permit phase with Clatsop County. Organizers have held meetings with surrounding neighbors, who Doss said have been generally supportive of the museum and design.

Volunteers began fundraising for the new building a year and a half ago, hiring a consultant before going in-house. Several large donors have already given around \$400,000, but fundraising has slowed down with a deflated log market and Chinese tariffs amid a protracted trade war.

"We'll have to adjust it in timber sports.

to fit," Standley said.

The group has looked at incorporating green building concepts and newer construction materials such as cross-laminated timber, used in multistory buildings elsewhere. But the newer material and sustainability certification might be overkill for the museum's size and backing, Doss said.

"For a project struggling with money, you have to limit expenditures," he said. "They'll try to be as green as possible."

To reach its lofty fundraising goal, the museum needs someone to reach out to large timber landowners, mills and other companies. "That's where the bigger money's going to come from, hopefully," Dethlefs said.

The Camp 18 Loggers Memorial will hold its annual dedication at 10 a.m. May 11. The names of those added in the last year will be called out, after which local high school forestry teams will compete in timber sports.

Homeless: 'A drop-in center, we need it'

Continued from Page A1

Being homeless can have a huge impact on a person's connections to the wider world, William E. Willingham Jr. said on Sunday. He had been homeless in Astoria for several years and benefited from the help of organizations like Filling Empty Bellies, which provides meals and other services. He has since secured housing and is a regular financial donor to Filling Empty Bellies.

"I could have used (a drop-in center) if it was here, but it wasn't here and I had to do it on my own," Willingham said. He added, "A drop-in center, we need it. Every community needs it."

His comments were echoed by other homeless or previously homeless people who attended the presentation.

Vernon Hall, an advocate for the homeless who found housing before a city sweep of homeless camps in the woods on the east end of



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Volunteers help prepare the Helping Hands facility in Uniontown in June.

Astoria last year, has pushed for a drop-in facility for a long time. He encouraged Filling Empty Bellies to try to create a facility last year.

The nonprofit's efforts stalled, but director Erin Carlsen said she is relieved to see a new group take up the idea.

She and Hall would love to see a center that also

employed the people it served so they could gain skills and experience and build their own sense of self-worth and motivation.

A drop-in center was one of the things LaMear had hoped the city could support or help facilitate — a feeling expressed by others on the homelessness solutions task force.

For now, though, the task force has focused on other projects, including a program to help homeless people reconnect with family or friends in other towns and get transportation back home. A subcommittee is also discussing a forgiveness program for people saddled with debt from court fines.

On Monday, Rocka and City Councilor Jessamyn West said a drop-in center may help address other issues downtown. A previous homelessness task force identified a lack of public bathrooms as a major issue, and in recent years police have fielded numerous complaints about public defecation and urination. Merchants have been concerned about people loitering or sleeping in doorways, but a center would give them somewhere to be, West noted.

"We're good at telling the homeless where they can't be," Rocka said, adding, "But we never tell them where they can be."

Column: City can always revisit the policy

Continued from Page A1

The Friends of the Astoria Column, which maintains the site, has invested a lot of money into the new lighting, City Councilor Jessamyn West said

"I would strongly lean towards whatever policy they feel comfortable with," she said. While she enjoys seeing the Column lit for causes like breast cancer awareness or Pride Week celebrations, the new policy would be cleaner and easier to follow, she said.

Under the current policy, lighting requests are handled on a first-come, first-served basis. Last

Council said they preferred the Column to only ever be lit with white light. Others, including City Councilor Tom Brownson, described themselves as "agnostic" about lighting.

The City Council asked

year, some on the City

the Friends of the Astoria Column to draft a lighting policy.

The city can always revisit the policy if the community decides it does not like the colored lights on the Column, Jones noted.

"We could always reserve the right to say, 'That was a bad idea. Let's go back to white,'" he said.

Alder and Maple Saw Logs & Standing Timber Northwest Hardwoods • Longview, WA Contact: John Anderson • 360-269-2500

THE DAILY ASTORIAN

5 CHEDULE

Evening listingsTUESDAY

TUE	SDA	ΥE	VENING	6	A - Charter Astoria/ Seaside - L - Charter Long Beach								F	BRUARY 26
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