

## IN BRIEF

## Astoria man struck by car

A pedestrian was struck by a car on Thursday afternoon near 46th Street and Lief Erikson Drive in Astoria.

Suzie Skirvin, 49, of Clatskanie, was driving west on Lief Erikson when she drifted off the shoulder and struck a 25-year-old Astoria man who was placing a sign on a trailer, police said.

The man was conscious at the scene and taken to Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria for treatment. Police are investigating the crash.

— *The Astorian*

## Coast Guard hoists hiker stranded on rocks

CANNON BEACH — The Coast Guard airlifted a hiker stranded on a rock piling at Ecola State Park on Wednesday.

Local authorities contacted Coast Guard watchstanders at Air Station Astoria in Warrenton Wednesday night to report a hiker stranded on a rock pile and surrounded by water and incoming waves.

The Coast Guard launched an MH-60 Jayhawk helicopter crew, hoisted the uninjured hiker and flew him back to the air station.

— *The Astorian*

## Christmas tree checkoff supporters prevail in referendum

Supporters of a national checkoff program aimed at promoting real Christmas trees have prevailed in another hard-fought referendum against opponents who believe it's ineffectual.

About 55% of farmers and importers voted in favor of the checkoff, which generates about \$1.8 million a year in mandatory fees of 15 cents per tree.

"I'm just delighted our industry will get the chance to help itself," said Betty Malone, an Oregon Christmas tree farmer who spearheaded the checkoff idea.

The program survived by a narrower margin of 1% in a previous election administered last year by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which oversees research and promotion boards for 22 crops.

Proponents of the Christmas Tree Promotion Board argue that collectively investing in advertising and research helps the industry compete against artificial trees, but critics claim individual growers can spend their marketing dollars more effectively.

— *Capital Press*

## State commission approves tuition increases

Substantial tuition increases at three of Oregon's public universities have been approved by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

Barring more state funding, tuition will increase by 10% for students at Southern Oregon University, 6.91% at University of Oregon and 6% at the Oregon Institute of Technology.

Staff representatives and students from each institution made their case in front of the state commission Thursday.

The tuition increases are much lower than initial proposals. Universities reined them in after legislators amended a budget bill to allocate \$100 million to public universities, instead of the \$40.5 million in the governor's proposed budget. The budget is not final.

Set to present Thursday, officials at Portland State University canceled their appearance after the university's Board of Trustees lowered next year's tuition hike from 11% to 4.97%.

Universities need permission from the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for tuition increases more than 5%. Leadership at Oregon's three other public universities stayed under that ceiling.

— *Oregon Public Broadcasting*

## CORRECTION

**District misidentified** — John Chapman was elected to the board of the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District in May. A headline on A2 on Thursday incorrectly said it was the transit district.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

**MONDAY**  
**Astoria City Council,**  
7 p.m., City Hall, 1095  
Duane St.

**TUESDAY**  
**Sunset Empire Park  
and Recreation District,**  
5:15 p.m., Bob Chisholm  
Community Center, 1225  
Avenue A, Seaside.  
**Seaside School District**

**Board of Directors,** 6 p.m.,  
1801 S. Franklin.  
**Shoreline Sanitary  
District Board,** 7 p.m.,  
Gearhart Hertig Station,  
33496 West Lake Lane,  
Warrenton.  
**Seaside Planning Com-  
mission,** 7 p.m., work  
session, City Hall, 989  
Broadway.

## the Astorian

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Katie Frankowicz/The Astorian

Catherine Tapales, center, a Warrenton High School graduate crowned Astoria Regatta queen in 2018, helps hand out food with the rest of the Regatta Court during pantry hours Thursday at the Clatsop County Regional Food Bank.

## Side Road Cafe opens in Warrenton

By EDWARD STRATTON  
*The Astorian*

WARRENTON — New owners have taken over the cafe inside Atlantis Auto Glass.

Amyleigh Sutton and Tom Elston opened Side Road Cafe earlier this month in place of Bohdan's, the upscale cafe and tap house started by Jeremy Gilhousen.

Don Bacon, the owner of Atlantis Auto Glass, had lamented the lack of restaurant options near his business. He built out a minimal of sorts inside his building, inviting a bike repair business, coffee shop and a Mexican food truck outside. Gilhousen wanted out and approached the couple about taking over, Elston said.



Edward Stratton/The Astorian

Amyleigh Sutton and Tom Elston run Side Road Cafe inside the Atlantis Auto Glass building at 1140 S.E. Marlin Ave.

Sutton described the building as "Warrenton's living room," playing host to people having their cars serviced at Atlantis Auto Glass, Les Schwab Tire Center or

Putman Pro Lube on Marlin Avenue.

"This is kind of the perfect little meeting spot," Elston said. "What I like about it is it has beer, but it's not a bar

vibe at all. It's more inviting, and kind of just a safe place for people to hang out in."

Sutton previously worked at Fort George Brewery, and Elston as a carpenter for Overbay Houseworks.

The two have focused on developing their own breakfast and lunch menu at the Side Road Cafe, including vegan biscuits and gravy and Sleepy Monk Coffee Roasters from Cannon Beach.

Along with the coffee bar is a rotating tap list featuring regional beers. The cafe is also featuring regional products such as Bees & Beans, an artisanal candy maker from Portland.

Side Road Cafe opens from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

## New dog academy opens in Warrenton

By EDWARD STRATTON  
*The Astorian*

WARRENTON — A transplant from Kansas has started a new rewards based dog-training center in Warrenton.

Elise Patrick, who recently moved to the North Coast from Lawrence, Kansas, with her husband, opened Mod.Dogs Canine Enrichment Center on Marlin Avenue near Bayshore Animal Hospital.

The business focuses on socializing puppies, adult dog manners and other common behavioral issues. The modern aspect of the training rewards good behavior rather than punishing the bad, Patrick said.

"If you jerk on a train or put a shock collar on a dog, then that tells the dog to stop doing what I'm doing, because otherwise I'm going to be punished," she said. "That's what's known as positive punishment. And while yes, it works, the fall-out from that can be much more difficult. It can be harder for dogs."

Before she trained dogs, Patrick, who has a master's in student affairs, worked in higher education administration. She and her husband, who works remotely as a software engineer, recently began looking at moving to the Pacific Northwest, where they have family.

"When we were anticipating this move, we knew I would probably need to have a job that was a little bit more portable, so I kind of positioned myself for that," she said.

Patrick began by volunteering at a local animal shelter in dog play groups and behavior evaluations. She apprenticed under Pat Miller, a veteran dog trainer focused on positive reinforcement, at Peaceable Paws in Maryland.

Mod.Dogs includes classes for puppies eight to 20 weeks and all-age classes for older dogs. Patrick largely focuses on teaching owners how to speak dog.

"They see the world with scent, and then they communicate with their bodies," she said. "That's the way they read each other.



Elise Patrick, left, owner of Mod.Dogs Canine Enrichment Center, uses a dog-training technique based on positive reinforcement rather than punishment.

We know enough about body language to be able to help owners understand if a dog is stressed, feeling uncomfortable, not liking a situation or liking a situation."

To keep group classes safe, Patrick will sometimes refer some more difficult

behavioral issues to Rain Jordan, a certified trainer who runs Expert Canine focusing on fearful, feral and traumatized dogs.

"She works more with skills training, whereas I work with skills training and behavior," Jordan said.

VOLUNTEER  
PICK OF THE WEEK

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