



INSIDE

Astorian

147TH YEAR, NO. 27

WEEKEND EDITION // SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 2019

\$1.50

New credit union branch brings cross-laminated timber to county

Fibre Federal uses CLT on new roof

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Astorian

WARRENTON — The new Fibre Federal Credit Union branch at the North Coast Retail Center uses a cross-laminated Douglas fir roof, one of the first commercial structures in Clatsop County to incorporate the timber technology.

The roof, however, comes from Austria, an example of the evolving nature of what many in the U.S. see as the new frontier for timber.

The Longview, Washington-based Fibre Federal wanted an affordable way to use exposed wood for a more Pacific Northwest feel, said Chris Bradberry, the president of the credit union. Architects recommended cross-laminated timber, a wood panel made from gluing layers of lumber together.

The technology has been used in thousands of buildings across Europe and has recently taken root in the U.S. Portland, for example, is home to Carbon12, an 85-foot condominium and retail tower that is the tallest cross-laminated timber building in the country.

“It gave us that ability to have the architectural design we wanted,” Bradberry said of the technology. “It’s also quicker on the build.”

Crews under general contractor Momentum, Inc., are building out the interior of the new branch, expected to open late this year as TLC Federal Credit Union, acquired as a division of Fibre Federal.

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Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

From the roof of the unfinished building, Mike Clizbe, the site supervisor for Momentum, Inc., points out cross-laminated timber in the new Fibre Federal branch in Warrenton.



Fibre Federal Credit Union

Longview, Washington-based Fibre Federal Credit Union is building a new branch of its subsidiary TLC Federal Credit Union in Warrenton using a cross-laminated timber roof.

‘IT’S KIND OF LIKE HOW GLUE-LAMINATED TIMBER STARTED IN THE 1940s WITH A COUPLE PRODUCERS. NOW THERE ARE 20 TO 30. I THINK THE U.S. INDUSTRY IS GOING TO CATCH UP WITH THE EUROPEAN INDUSTRY PRETTY QUICKLY.’

Tom Williamson | wood technology expert based in Vancouver, Washington



The roof of a new Fibre Federal building is being constructed with CLT off of U.S. Highway 101 and Ensign Lane.
Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

WATERFRONT BRIDGE PROJECT



Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

A sea lion scratches its face with a rear flipper while resting on the structure beneath Buoy Beer Co. off Eighth Street on Friday.

Watching for sea lions

Workers tracked more than 4,000 encounters

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Astorian

A short list of issues that held up work on three waterfront bridges downtown includes snowstorms that shut down suppliers, emergency road repairs and more than 4,000 encounters with sea lions.

The bridges at the base of Seventh, Ninth and 11th streets officially reopened on Thursday. The work to replace them closed street ends for months and hit businesses that rely on foot traffic hard.

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Public comment open on killing sea lions
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Three sick by parasite at county fair

An outbreak of ‘crypto’

By NICOLE BALES
The Astorian

An adult and two children were infected by cryptosporidium, a microscopic parasite, at the Clatsop County Fair.

The Oregon Health Authority is leading an investigation into the cause of the outbreak.

The county has notified health care providers and asked for reports of other suspected cases. The fair was held from late July to early August.

According to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, cryptosporidium, known as “crypto,” causes watery diarrhea. The parasite spreads most commonly by water, the CDC said, and is a leading cause of waterborne disease among people in the United States.

Symptoms often show within two to 10 days, although some people have no symptoms at all.

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At Pier 39, the second coming of El Primero

An old yacht returns to Astoria

By LUCY KLEINER
The Astorian

With the smell of fish wafting from the kitchen and the sound of sea lions barking in the distance, a walk down historic Pier 39 is timeless. But nothing takes visitors back like the maritime oddity anchored nearby.

For the first time in 113 years, El Primero has returned to Astoria. The 137-foot ship’s white paint and rustic wood stretches alongside the pier, and its long, narrow shape attracts the eyes of locals and tourists alike. Last time the yacht crossed the bar, it was 1906.

The El Primero, one of the oldest luxury yachts still sailing today, returned to the mouth of the Columbia River earlier this month.

The yacht was built in San Francisco in 1893 by Union Iron Works. The original construction cost just under \$250,000. After inflation, that is roughly \$7 million today.

But the investment paid off. “This boat is one of the most important remaining yachts in the world,” said Capt. Christian Lint, who owns the El Primero and the Astoria Ferry. “It exemplifies the transition of sail to steam and of wood to steel.”

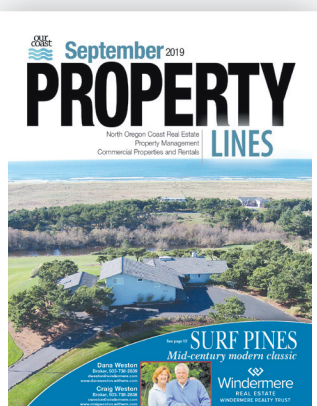
In 1906, El Primero passed through Astoria on its way north

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Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

The old luxury yacht, El Primero, is anchored at Pier 39.



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