

IN BRIEF

Astoria rally to support action on climate change

People are rallying in Astoria on Friday to support the Global Climate Strike around the world.

Indivisible North Coast Oregon is hosting the rally and encourages people to bring signs in support of climate change action.

The rally will take place at noon on Marine Drive between 16th Street and 18th Street.

County meeting to discuss Norriston Heights timber sale

The Clatsop County Board of Commissioners will meet with the Oregon Department of Forestry on Monday to discuss the Norriston Heights timber sale.

The timber sale would involve a modified clearcut of more than 70 acres on the east side of U.S. Highway 101 between Arcadia Beach and Hug Point.

Some residents have raised concerns about the impact of the cut on water quality, habitat conservation and tourism.

The meeting will be at 2 p.m. at the Judge Guy Boyington Building in Astoria.

Sport salmon and steelhead fishing closes on the Columbia River

Recreational salmon and steelhead fishing closed Thursday on the Columbia River from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to Highway 395 near Pasco, Washington.

The closure will remain in effect through Oct. 31 downstream of Bonneville Dam and through Dec. 31 upstream of Bonneville Dam.

Fisheries managers from Oregon and Washington state made the decision based on recent harvest estimates that recreational fisheries have exceeded their allocation of upriver bright fall Chinook.

Recreational fishing for hatchery coho remains open from Buoy 10 to Tongue Point.

Rep. Bonamici comes to Gearhart

U.S. Rep. Suzanne Bonamici will be in Gearhart for a town hall on Oct. 7.

Bonamici will answer questions from residents and provide an update about her work in Congress starting at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria of Gearhart Elementary School, 1002 Pacific Way. Members of Bonamici's staff will be at the town hall to assist anyone who is experiencing problems with federal agencies.

"Constituent input informs the work I do, including taking action on the climate crisis, addressing student loan debt, and making sure everyone can access affordable health care," the Oregon Democrat said in a news release. "I look forward to discussing these and many other issues at my fall town hall meetings, and I encourage all residents of northwest Oregon to join the conversation."

County seeks applicants for rec lands committee

Clatsop County is accepting applications for seats on the Recreational Lands Planning Advisory Committee.

The committee assists in developing long-range plans for county parks and formulating amendments to the recreation lands element of the county's comprehensive land use plan. There are two open positions with three-year terms ending February 2022.

Applications are available at the county manager's office at 800 Exchange St., Suite 410 in Astoria, or online at the county's website.

— The Astorian

BIRTH

Sept. 1, 2019

ANDERSON, Anna and Thor, of Astoria, a boy, Barak Ragnar Anderson, born at Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria. Grandparents are Susan Bones, of Astoria, and Jon and Merri Anderson, of Knappa.

ON THE RECORD

DUII

• Gregory Tolman, 43, of Plato, Missouri, was arrested Monday in Warrenton for driving under the influence of intoxicants. His blood alcohol content was 0.17%.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

THURSDAY
Sunset Empire Transportation District Board,
9 a.m., Astoria Transit
Center Conference Room,
900 Marine Drive.

Clatsop County
Recreational Lands
Planning Advisory
Committee, 1 p.m., fourth
floor, 800 Exchange St.,
Astoria.

the Astorian

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TEARDOWN



R.J. Marx/The Astorian

A new, 65-room luxury hotel is planned for the former City Center Motel in Seaside. Masudur Khan, of Seaside Lodging, purchased the motel in 2013.

Keeping bums dry, one diaper at a time

Duo teams up to help parents

By ALYSSA EVANS
Chinook Observer

LONG BEACH, Wash. — A mother-daughter duo is teaming up to help parents in need.

Denise Albrecht and her daughter, Emily, are founders of Beach Bum Diaper Bank. The bank will provide free diapers to parents struggling to afford diapers.

Before moving to the peninsula, Denise Albrecht worked as a nurse at Multi-Care Deaconess Hospital in Spokane.

"There, you see parents from all walks of life. There are those who are able to provide everything their child could ever want and those that struggle to make ends meet," Denise Albrecht said. "It's the parents that are asking for the extra pack of diapers before they're discharged from the hospital that need help meeting their needs."

While in Spokane, she worked for Early Head Start and a local diaper bank that serves several eastern Washington counties.

"We were able to take 20 diapers per month to our families. Sometimes that met the need to fill the gap and sometimes it didn't," she said.

Babies require up to 12 diapers per day, and toddlers up to eight, according to the National Diaper Bank Network. Families struggling to provide diapers are about 19



Alyssa Evans/Chinook Observer

Denise and Emily Albrecht are teaming up to give free diapers to local parents in need.

diapers short each month, according to the network.

"We want to be able to serve the population that really needs it. There are so many people out there who are in desperate need and don't say anything," Emily Albrecht said. "Those are the people who we want to serve. Our main goal is to serve the people who really need it."

The diaper shortage leads to children having to wear soiled diapers, as well as other problems. Day care centers typically require at least a day's supply of diapers, so parents experiencing a diaper shortage might have to stay home to provide child care.

Parents facing a diaper shortage miss about four days of work each month, according to the network.

Denise Albrecht and her husband, John, were foster parents for about 20 years. The couple saw a lot of families struggling to afford diapers.

"We saw the same thing;

parents rationing diapers and the kids coming back from visits in really, really soiled diapers because the parents just didn't have what they needed to be able to change their diaper while at the visits," she said.

State and federal programs don't cover diapers, resulting in more than a quarter of U.S. families having to rely on diaper banks, according to the network.

After adopting her daughter, Emily Albrecht experienced the challenge of balancing diaper costs along with other responsibilities.

"I struggled a lot to be able to cover the cost of getting diapers for her, being able to work full time, and making sure she was able to be covered in what she needed," she said.

Like her parents, through working in foster care, Emily Albrecht's seen many parents also struggle to afford diapers. Whenever possible, she's donated items to parents

in need.

"No parent wants to start out with nothing when they have a child and no child should have to go through that," she said. "With us being able to collect diapers around the peninsula and get the support of the community to help parents out, we're being able to take care of those kids and help out those parents."

At Ocean Beach Hospital's gift shop, the diaper bank will have a permanent donation box. The bank is expected to add more distribution locations in the coming months.

Long Beach City Councilor Kevin Cline and Danielle McCue, owner of All Seasons Resale consignment store, are working with the Albrechts as board members for the diaper bank.

"We have food banks. We have supports for people that need help paying electric, covering rent, things like that. But a lot of times, a diaper bank is forgotten about," Cline said. "We don't think twice about it."

Once the diaper bank's distribution centers are confirmed, the bank will provide families with a monthly ration of 20 diapers per month. Initially, diapers will be focused toward babies and toddlers. Eventually, products for older children and adults will be available.

The diaper bank will rely on community donations.

"We can't do this without the help of the community," Denise Albrecht said. "What we can do is determined by the donations we get."

Warrenton teacher resigns after incident with student

By NICOLE BALES
The Astorian

A Warrenton Grade School teacher has resigned following an "emotionally charged situation" with a student in a fourth grade classroom on Monday.

"There was definitely an emotionally charged situation between the teacher and a student that the other students reported and that student reported," Warrenton-Hammond School District Superintendent Tom Rogozinski said, declining to publicly share any other details.

The school district's investigation involved the student, the student's parents and the teacher.

"I feel like the response of our administrative team

in the building level was prompt and very much responsive in the best kind of way," Rogozinski said. "It was a thorough and quick response and ensured the safety of the children in hand. And I trust that response was the appropriate one both in step and immediacy."

The teacher resigned. School staff and families with children in the teacher's class have been notified.

"The staff member ... she was I think recognizing that more of her emotional control being lost was what maybe led to her resignation," Rogozinski said. "She knew that wasn't the way she wanted to manage students and interact with students."

Oregon, Washington to begin building a new Interstate Bridge by 2025

By ANDREW THEEN
The Oregonian

Federal highway officials on Tuesday endorsed an accelerated timeline proposed by Oregon and Washington transportation officials that sets the two states on a fast track toward construction on a new Interstate Bridge by 2025.

Last month, the two states requested a 10-year extension on their timeline to show progress on the bridge project or face repaying nearly \$140 million in planning costs tied to the Columbia River Crossing Project. That request would've given the states until Sept. 30, 2029, to either start buying up right of way or begin construction on the I-5 project.

While seeking a decade delay, the states simultaneously suggested a series of aggressive milestones, including reinitiating an environmental review of a

proposed project in spring 2020 and starting construction in the summer of 2025.

Travis Brouwer, Oregon's deputy director for transportation, described the milestones as "highly theoretical" but also "aspirational" and "reasonable."

The Federal Highway Administration declined the 10-year extension request but endorsed the aggressive timeline and echoed Brouwer's assertion. The states now must show considerable progress, including buying up necessary right of way, by the end of September 2024. If the states don't accomplish that goal, they could owe a collective \$140 million to the federal government for planning costs related to the past bridge effort. Oregon's share is \$93.3 million.

The federal letter is the latest indication that the I-5 bridge project is going to be a top priority in coming years.

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