

Hilton: New hotel would feature a maritime theme similar to nearby buildings

Continued from Page A1

Ferguson runs Ferguson Hotel Development. His business partner, Lew Wiens, leads a management company called True North Hotel Group. The two have been developing properties around the U.S. since the 1980s and recently formed Astoria Hotel Investors.

They had been considering a SpringHill Suites, a Marriott franchise, but switched routes after developer Mark Hollander got approval from the City Council to build a Marriott Fairfield Inn & Suites along the riverfront.

The approval of the four-story Fairfield Inn sparked a review of city building standards that resulted in more restricted development along the north side of the riverfront.

“We’re grandfathered in, so we didn’t feel threatened by that,” Ferguson said of his project.

In September, the City Council approved of staff looking into restrictions on chain hotels and restaurants. The council will hold a work session on the issue in January.

Cannon Beach has restricted “formula food,” defined as businesses required by contractual or other arrangements to offer standardized menus, ingredients, food preparation, interior or exterior design or uniforms. Gearhart is looking at similar restrictions.

Developers from Kansas City, Missouri, are planning a Hilton Home2 Suites extended-stay hotel at the site of the former Bayside Sentry Market on Marine Drive in Astoria.

The Astorian



Chief: ‘I’m ready for the next stage’

Continued from Page A1

Reckmann has worked for the fire district part time since 2017. He works full time as a shift captain for the Cornelius Fire Department, where he has served for the past 18 years.

“I love what I do, but I’m ready for the next stage of my life. I’m ready to come off that engine working 24-hour shifts ... and have a different challenge,” Reckmann said. “I’m looking forward to challenge. There’s a lot of challenges here.”

The fire district’s board put together two panels for input made up of volunteer firefighters and South County officials, including Seaside Fire Chief Joey Daniels, Cannon Beach Emergency Manager Rick Hudson and Cannon Beach Police Chief Jason Schermerhorn.

Both panels shared their recommendations prior to the board’s vote. The panels agreed changes need to be made to support the next chief, and communication between the board, chief and volunteers needs to improve.

Both panels recommended the board hire Reckmann.

“However, it is concerning to the committee that the common denominator of burnout and retiring or resignation between the last three fire chiefs has been centered around their relationship with the district board,” Jorden Spencer said in a statement on behalf of the volunteer firefighters panel. “We believe that in order for

‘COMMUNICATION HAS TO GO FROM THE FIREFIGHTERS UP TO THE BOARD AND FROM THE BOARD BACK DOWN TO THE FIREFIGHTERS.’

Marc Reckmann | incoming fire chief for Cannon Beach

our next fire chief to be successful there must be change in the way the district board treats the chief and lines of communication must be kept open.”

The panels agreed a strategic plan needs to be created to ensure the next chief is not set up to fail.

“The biggest challenge the district has right now is it needs to be reorganized,” Hudson said on behalf of his panel. “I’m talking about the overall philosophy, especially when it comes to the leadership position of the fire chief.”

Hudson recommended forming a mentorship and leadership team made up of local fire chiefs and executive leadership to support Reckmann and help the fire district develop a strategic plan.

“The transparency needed from the board all the way down to the brand new firefighters has to be something that changes,” Hudson said. “I’m not sure what that change is, but it really comes down to communication stream. That reorganization that could happen during the strategic planning could be what brings the district together.”

Benedict replaced Mike Balzer, who was fired by the

fire district’s board in 2015. Balzer later reached a settlement after he filed a federal civil rights lawsuit against the fire district over his dismissal. Three board members faced a recall election in 2016 over the dispute but voters kept them in office.

The board scheduled a work session to address the recommendation and create a plan moving forward. Although the board was receptive to the feedback, several board members said they are not to blame for a lack of communication.

“If people feel that there’s been a lack of communication I’m going to have to blame it on our fire chiefs in the past,” said Bob Cerelli, the fire district’s vice president.

He said the fire chief is the conduit for communication between the board and volunteers, and it is the chief’s job to make sure there is an open line of communication.

“Communication has to go from the firefighters up to the board and from the board back down to the firefighters,” Reckmann said. “I think that’s one of the biggest things for me is really open, honest communication with the board ... The board has to know the information of what the district needs.”

Judge: Peterson has handled a range of cases

Continued from Page A1

Most recently, he was the lead counsel in the murder prosecutions of Adeena Copell and Christian Wilkins, who were convicted in May in the 2016 death of a Newport man.

Peterson has represented the district attorney’s office on the county’s mental health court and has served as a board member for Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare.

“We’re very excited about it, very happy for him. We see it as a feather in our cap to have someone promoted basically to another DA job or the bench particularly,” District Attorney Ron

Brown said.

“He’s been here with us since a year he got out of law school. We’re going to miss him a lot. We’ve loved having him on our team, but we’re also very proud he got appointed by the governor.”

Peterson’s appointment is effective immediately. He is expected to begin in January. The position will be up for election for a six-year term in May.

“Gov. Brown chose well. Beau Peterson is a thoughtful, courteous and well-prepared prosecutor,” Brownhill said in an email. “He will be an excellent judge — a careful listener and fair decision-maker. The court will

have to work through conflicts with cases he has prosecuted, but he will be able to pick up civil and family law cases immediately.”

Judge Dawn McIntosh, the presiding judge of the Circuit Court, said Peterson is a fair trial lawyer and will make a good judge.

“We are thrilled with the governor’s decision and we are looking forward to welcoming Mr. Peterson on the bench here in Clatsop County,” McIntosh said. “He has a lot of experience ... he’s an excellent trial lawyer, he’s bright, he’s intelligent, he’s well-respected by the bench and the bar on both sides of the aisle.”

Tiny Micro-Chip Now In The Ear: Available!



Now You See It...



Now You Don't!



Tiny micro-processor

- One of the smallest custom hearing aids ever made.
- 48 channel digital signal processing.
- Digital engineering allows 1,000's of custom settings.
- Controlled by state-of-the-art software.

Spaces are Limited Call Today for your FREE* Hearing Evaluation and a FREE* Turkey on US!



One More Thing

Some parts of the evaluation include the use of a familiar voice, so please bring a spouse or family member with you. Call us today to confirm your appointment time!

The Miracle-Ear Advantage:

2 for \$995*

Receive 2 AudioTone™ Pro Hearing Aids at \$995 for a limited time only.

*limit one coupon per patient at the promotional price during event dates only. Not valid with any other discount or offer. Does not apply to prior purchases. Fits up to a 35 db loss. Offer expires 12/20/19.

- 100% Satisfaction Guarantee* • 3-Year Limited Warranty**
- FREE Lifetime Service • Over 65 Years in Business
- Over 1,200 Locations Nationwide

Mention Code:19DecMicro

Miracle-Ear Center
Youngs Bay Plaza
173 S. Hwy 101
Warrenton, OR 97146
(503) 836-7921

Miracle- Ear Center
2505 Main Ave N, Suite C
Tillamook, OR 97141
(503) 836-7926



Most Insurance Plans Accepted Including Blue Cross Blue Shield

*To receive a FREE Turkey voucher you must undergo a full hearing evaluation and have a minimum 40dB hearing loss. Voucher is good toward the purchase of Butterball turkeys or many other brands of your choice, up to a maximum value of ten dollars.
*Pursuant to terms of your purchase agreement, the aids may be returned in satisfactory condition within 30 days for a full refund. Fitting fee may apply.
**Not valid on Audiotone Pro.