

## IN BRIEF

## Seaside takes first step to annex property south of city

SEASIDE — A “checkerboard” is how city officials explained the annexation of 45 properties from the south corner of Avenue U to the north corner of Avenue S on Roosevelt Drive.

The ordinance calls for annexation of county property zoned general commercial and industrial from Bell Buoy to Avenue U in accordance with the zones established under the city’s comprehensive plan and statutes.

Annexation is required before land can be developed at urban density with city zoning, or to hook up to city water, police, fire and other services. After annexation, subject properties — about two-thirds east of the highway, and one-third along the Necanicum River — would be withdrawn from the Seaside Rural Fire Protection District and included in the city for fire protection purposes.

Property owners would be required to pay the cost of water and sewer extensions.

Residents now under county jurisdiction would see an increase of about \$1.80 per \$1,000 of their home’s assessed value, officials estimated.

“I know it’s been a goal of this council this year to go through the properties and bring them into the city,” City Manager Mark Winstanley said. “We’ve prepared an ordinance to allow that to take place.”

## KAST quiet after transmitter failure

KAST 1370 AM has been off the air since Jan. 3 due to a transmitter failure.

A specialist is scheduled to diagnose the issue on Friday.

The station hopes to be back on the air as soon as possible, but so far there is no estimate as to when the transmitter will be fixed.

## Shipwreck conference comes to Astoria

The Columbia River Maritime Museum and Maritime Archaeological Society will host the 2020 Columbia River Shipwreck Conference on Feb. 8 in Astoria.

A variety of speakers will present on shipwreck research and discoveries from the Pacific Northwest and around the world. The afternoon session will cover local and Spanish shipwrecks, and the quest to discover whether Francis Drake landed on the Oregon Coast.

James Delgado, an internationally known maritime archaeologist, will discuss the final frontier of maritime archaeology in the extreme deep.

The first presentation begins at 10 a.m. at the maritime museum. Tickets are \$45 and can be purchased online on the museum’s website.

## County accepting applicants for human services panel

Clatsop County is accepting applications for open seats for two-year terms on the Human Services Advisory Council.

The council advises the Board of Commissioners on developmental disabilities, mental health and alcohol and drug abuse services.

The council meets the first Thursday of each month from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., where they identify needs, establish priorities for publicly funded services and assist in selecting and evaluating service providers.

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

Appointments will be made by the Board of Commissioners.

— *The Astorian*

## DEATH

Jan. 14, 2020

JAPPE, Richard, 77, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

## ON THE RECORD

### Disorderly conduct

• Bricen Hinricksen-Walker, 21, of Seaside, was arrested Monday on Avenue A in Seaside for disorderly conduct.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

### THURSDAY

**Astoria City Council**, 1 p.m., work session on chain hotels and restaurants, City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

**Seaside Transportation Advisory Commission**, 6 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.



Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

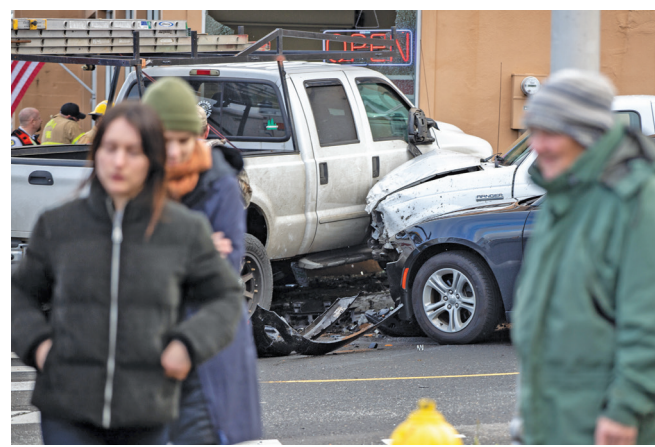
Strong winds and a light snow touched the North Coast on Tuesday.



# SMASHED

Photos by Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

Several vehicles were involved in a crash at the intersection of Commercial and 15th streets near Roby’s Furniture & Appliance on Tuesday afternoon. No injuries were reported. Police say a pickup truck hauling a trailer hit two parked cars before crashing into a vehicle traveling on 15th and Commercial. That vehicle was pushed into another parked car. The truck hauling the trailer crashed into Roby’s. Authorities are investigating the crash.



# Former employee sues sheriff’s office, alleging discrimination

By NICOLE BALES  
*The Astorian*

A former staff assistant has filed a federal lawsuit against the Clatsop County Sheriff’s Office and her former supervisor alleging sex discrimination and retaliation.

Kimberly Losada resigned from her job in August after nearly 15 years with the Parole and Probation Division. In a lawsuit filed Monday in U.S. District Court in Portland, she alleges that Lt.

Kristen Hanthorn, who leads the division, subjected her to bullying, harassment, discrimination and retaliation based on her sex.

Losada, who lives in Naselle, Washington, claims Hanthorn’s hostile and discriminatory behavior took a toll on her psychologically and physically.

She alleges the county took no effective action in ending Hanthorn’s behavior, even after investigations by the sheriff’s office and the coun-

ty’s human resources department, which she claims confirmed her allegations.

Losada is seeking \$425,000 in economic losses and emotional damages.

Hanthorn and the county declined to comment on the lawsuit.

Russell Gomm, a Portland attorney representing Losada, also declined to comment.

The lawsuit said Losada worked at the Parole and Probation Division since 2005

and enjoyed the job until Hanthorn became her supervisor in 2011.

Losada claims that Hanthorn’s treatment of her was based on her gender and that the sheriff’s office failed to address Hanthorn’s behavior.

She resigned, the lawsuit said, because she “felt she had no choice but to comply with her physicians’ recommendations and separate from the job that she had loved for years and had fought to try to make tolerable.”

# Chinook win court battle on path for recognition

By ASHLEY NERBOVIG  
*Chinook Observer*

TACOMA, Wash. — A federal judge has ruled that a ban preventing the Chinook Indian Nation from reapplying for federal tribal recognition is unjustified.

U.S. District Court Judge Ronald B. Leighton on Friday ordered the U.S. Department of the Interior to reexamine its justification for the repetition ban, or change the regulation to allow for the Chinook Indian Nation to apply again.

According to a news release from Chinook Indian Nation, Tribal Chairman

Tony Johnson celebrated the decision.

“This is an important step for the Chinook Nation in finally reclaiming full tribal rights,” Johnson said.

Federally recognized tribes are American Indian or Alaskan Native tribal entities that have sovereignty within the U.S. Recognized tribes can do direct business with the federal government and are entitled to certain benefits, services and protections.

The judge’s decision came after oral arguments were held on Jan. 6 in U.S. District Court in Tacoma. Chinook Nation tribal members ral-

lied outside the courthouse to show the judge how important the court case was to the tribe.

Thane Tienison is an attorney for the tribe and argued on its behalf at the hearing.

“The court sympathized with the Chinook Nation’s plight and has opened a way to finally right this historic wrong,” Tienison said in the tribe’s news release. “It is the strongest message yet from a federal court to the Department of Interior and the Bureau of Indian Affairs that the department has abused its discretionary authority and ignored its responsibility to

all Indian tribes in order to protect the status quo and we are pleased to see the court overturn the department’s decision.”

The Chinook Nation was granted official status in January 2001, but the status was rescinded 18 months later by the Bush administration.

The judge’s ruling vacates a 2015 decision by the Department of the Interior, which prevented the tribe from seeking official tribal status. Chinook Indian Nation sued the department in 2017 over the rule, as well as over trust funds the tribe never received.

## the Astorian

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