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CORONAVIRUS



Edward Stratton/The Astorian

Work resumed Monday at Bornstein Seafoods after a coronavirus outbreak shut the seafood processor down for two weeks.

Seafood industry aims to weather pandemic

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Astorian

Two of the North Coast's largest seafood processors have reopened in time for one of Oregon's biggest fisheries after an outbreak of the coronavirus among workers.

Pacific Seafood in Warrenton and Bornstein Seafoods in Astoria are returning to business with numerous safety precautions in place to prevent the spread of the virus.

Fishing, an industry that always juggles some degree of uncertainty even in the best conditions, now faces many more unknowns because of the coronavirus.

"The whole thing is a nightmare," said Lori Steele, the executive director of the West Coast Seafood Processors Association.

The commercial season for Pacific whiting, or hake, opened Friday. It is Oregon's largest fishery by volume and a time of maximum production for many processors.

In a normal year, workers would stand nearly shoulder to shoulder on the line during an offload. Many would be

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Workers return to Bornstein Seafoods after virus outbreak

Some describe life in quarantine

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Astorian

Workers at Bornstein Seafoods headed back to work on Monday after a coronavirus outbreak closed the Astoria processing plants and sent them into a two-week quarantine.

The Clatsop County Public Health Department reported that 28 workers at Bornstein Seafoods tested positive for the virus. Several workers described going through quarantine and the uneasy choice of going back to work.

Mirna Marin, who said she tested positive for the coronavirus, spent two weeks in quarantine with her husband, Victor Reyes, and their five children in Warrenton.

"Thanks to God, from the beginning when I tested positive ... the only symptoms that I had was the swollen glands," Marin said.

Like many families with both positive and negative test results, they all quarantined together. After she tested positive, the Public Health Department reached out to Marin's mother, who works at Pacific Seafood in Warrenton. The plant briefly suspended operations after an employee tested positive and eventually had 10 cases. Marin's mother tested negative.

Marin and her husband had stocked up on food before the positive test and depended on friends and family to bring other items. Reyes, who tested negative, largely took care of the kids. The two made ginger tea to ease their swollen glands and never developed



Edward Stratton/The Astorian

While quarantined with the coronavirus, Maria de los Angeles Sanchez kept herself separated from her 12-year-old son inside their apartment.

any worse symptoms.

Maria de los Angeles Sanchez, who lives with her 12-year-old son in Emerald Heights, said she felt traumatized after learning she had tested positive for the virus.

She spent much of the quarantine in her room, reading, praying and doing puzzles, only coming out to cook. Despite remaining asymptomatic, she took pains to stay separated from her son and choked up at times about being separated from him even in quarantine together.

Marin, Reyes and Sanchez all ended their quarantine Sunday free of any symptoms and ready to return to work. Sanchez contemplated taking

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Cannon Beach lifts visitor ban over virus

By NICOLE BALES
The Astorian

CANNON BEACH — The City Council voted Friday to lift an order restricting visitors to the city over the coronavirus.

The decision came after Gov. Kate Brown gave Clatsop County the approval to begin phase one of reopening the economy from virus restrictions.

The City Council passed a series of emergency measures in March after an influx of spring break visitors.

Clatsop County closed hotels and other lodging to visitors, but Cannon Beach took the restrictions a step further by excluding visitors who live outside a 50-mile radius of the city.

Mayor Sam Steidel said the decision was difficult, but city councilors agreed it made sense to lift the ban on visitors.

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A business in limbo over virus

Owners want to reopen amusement park

By NICOLE BALES
The Astorian

SEASIDE — Bruce and Tammi Rath were eagerly planning to reopen Captain Kid Amusement Park over the weekend after being closed since March because of the coronavirus.

The couple decided to hold off a little bit longer, though, to see if they will get guidance from the state.

Amusement parks are not expected to reopen until after phase one of Gov. Kate Brown's framework to restart the economy, and perhaps not until after phase two. The Rathes say they want to comply, but they believe they can operate safely with a maximum of 25 people in the park during phase one.

"We are not your typical Disneyland," Tammi Rath told state officials during a regional town hall organized online by state Rep. Tiffany Mitchell in early May.

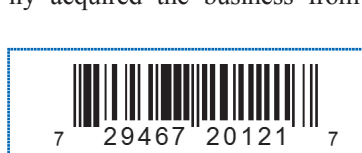
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Family to reopen market

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Astorian

Denise Kinney ran a child care business in Astoria before she said coronavirus restrictions shut her down.

Now Kinney will mostly be behind the counter at Astoria Downtown Market on Commercial Street after her family acquired the business from



EVERYDAY people

Samuel McDaniel. They hope to reopen the market by this weekend.

She will primarily run the market. Her husband, Steve, and son, Nathan, who work for the family's excavation company,



Edward Stratton/The Astorian

Steve and Denise Kinney purchased the Astoria Downtown Market and hope to reopen soon.

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ELECTION 2020

VOTERS HAVE UNTIL 8 P.M. TUESDAY TO DROP OFF BALLOTS IN THE MAY ELECTION.

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