

IN BRIEF

High wind warning issued for North Coast

A high wind warning has been issued for the North Coast.

East winds between 20 to 30 mph with gusts up to 65 mph are expected Monday evening until 1 p.m. on Tuesday.

Winds may blow down trees and power lines and widespread power outages are expected.

Officials say people should use caution when driving, avoid forested areas and avoid getting close to windows at home. People are also asked to use caution with potential ignition sources, since the conditions could rapidly spread fire.

A red flag warning was also issued because of fire danger.

Driver dies in crash on Highway 26

A single-vehicle crash off of U.S. Highway 26 on Saturday night resulted in a fatality.

Officials say the driver and sole occupant of a Ford F-350 truck was heading westbound and drove off the roadway near milepost 30 and down an embankment.

Police responded at about 8:27 p.m. and the driver was pronounced dead. The name of the driver has not been released.

Election forum planned for Seaside

SEASIDE — Local and state candidates will participate in an election forum on Oct. 8.

The event, from 6 to 8 p.m., is co-sponsored by the Seaside Signal and the Seaside chapter of the American Association of University Women.

The forum will be accessible to the public through a livestream broadcast.

At the state level, Debbie Boothe-Schmidt, a Democrat who has worked as a trial assistant, and Tillamook Mayor Suzanne Weber, a Republican, are running for state House District 32.

Three Seaside City Council seats are up for election in November, with incumbents Randy Frank and Tom Horning running unopposed.

Candidates David Posalski, Kathy Kleczek and Adam Wood are vying for the Ward 4 seat after incumbent Seth Morrissey said he would not seek another term.

In Gearhart, City Councilor Paulina Cockrum is the sole mayoral candidate after Mayor Matt Brown decided not to seek reelection.

Position 2 incumbent Reita Fackerell will face opposition from former mayoral candidate Bob Shortman.

Position 4 City Councilor Dan Jesse is being challenged by Jack Zimmerman, who ran for City Council against Kerry Smith in 2018.

A link to the livestream will be posted prior to the forum. People who wish to submit questions in advance for the candidates may do so by emailing editor@seasidesignal.com.

— The Astorian

DEATHS

Sept. 4, 2020

KUSTURA, Lois Marie, 94, of Astoria, died in Astoria. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

Sept. 3, 2020

HIGGINS, Linda Miller "Lin," 73, of Hammond, died in Hammond. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

TUESDAY

Clatsop County Planning Commission, 10 a.m., (electronic meeting).

Lewis & Clark Fire Department Board, 6 p.m., main fire station, 34571 U.S. Highway 101 Business.

Warrenton City Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall, 225 S. Main Ave.

Clatsop Community College, 6:30 p.m., (electronic meeting).

Astoria City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

WEDNESDAY

Clatsop Soil & Water Conservation District, 10 a.m., (electronic meeting).

Port of Astoria Finance Committee, 1 p.m., (electronic meeting).

Clatsop County Board of Commissioners, 6 p.m., (electronic meeting).

Wickiup Water District Board, 6:30 p.m., 92648 Svensen Market Road, Svensen.

THURSDAY

Seaside Civic and Convention Center Commission, 5 p.m., Seaside Civic and Convention Center, 415 First Ave.

Gearhart Planning Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall, 698 Pacific Way.

Warrenton-Hammond School District, 7 p.m., (electronic meeting).

Astoria School District Board, 7 p.m., (electronic meeting).

the Astorian

Established July 1, 1873
(USPS 035-000)

Published Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday by EO Media Group, 949 Exchange St., PO Box 210, Astoria, OR 97103 Telephone 503-325-3211, 800-781-3211 or Fax 503-325-6573. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Astorian, PO Box 210, Astoria, OR 97103-0210

DailyAstorian.com
MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
MEMBER CERTIFIED AUDIT OF CIRCULATIONS, INC.

Circulation phone number:
503-325-3211

Periodicals postage paid at Astoria, OR

ADVERTISING OWNERSHIP
All advertising copy and illustrations prepared by The Astorian and may not be reproduced for any use without explicit prior approval.

COPYRIGHT ©
Entire contents © Copyright, 2020 by The Astorian.

Printed on recycled paper

Subscription rates
Effective May 1, 2019
MAIL (IN COUNTY)

EZpay (per month)\$11.25
13 weeks in advance\$37.00
26 weeks in advance\$71.00
52 weeks in advance\$135.00

Out of County Rates available at 800-781-3214

DIGITAL

EZpay (per month)\$8.00



ON DISPLAY



ABOVE: At a march in Seaside on Sunday, Miles Rudduck said a prayer for Aaron 'Jay' Danielson, a supporter of the far-right group Patriot Prayer who was shot and killed in August after being part of a caravan for President Donald Trump in Portland. Michael Reinoehl, a far-left activist suspected of killing Danielson, was shot and killed by law enforcement. **LEFT:** Advocates for a safe Seaside surrounded the statue of Lewis and Clark at the Turnaround on Sunday as the Sons of Liberty and other far-right activists passed through. People were concerned after far-right organizers announced an open carry march.

Photos by Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

In Philomath, making the best of 'a not so fun summer'

By CASSANDRA PROFITA

Oregon Public Broadcasting

PHILOMATH — For the first time in almost 40 years, Philomath canceled its annual Frolic & Rodeo summertime event this year because of the coronavirus pandemic.

It was just one of the countless events canceled in Oregon this summer, but one that stripped the small, historic logging town of a beloved rural tradition — a tradition that has stood the test of time as the town grew more urban and the timber industry declined.

The Philomath Frolic & Rodeo showcases all manner of talent in the small town of about 5,000 people. Kids ride sheep and catch trout with their bare hands. Lumberjacks compete to see who can chop wood the fastest.

The community spends all year planning the three-day event, working together to orchestrate a menagerie of family entertainment around a professional rodeo. There's a rodeo queen pageant, a fun run, a cornhole tournament, dunk tanks, live music, fireworks and an enormous supply of grilled chicken.

On the final day of the celebration, about half the town parades through the streets while the other half cheers them on. The grand finale is a seemingly endless line of log trucks, all shined up with their most impressive timber in tow.

Normally, canceling the Philomath Frolic & Rodeo would be unthinkable. But this year, Gov. Kate Brown's order banning large gatherings gave organizers little choice in the matter.

"What could we do?" Philomath City Manager Chris Workman said. "It was a pretty short and difficult conversation."

Workman couldn't bear to let the event go without any kind of festivity, though.

"I was thinking at the very least we could still do the fireworks and do it in a manner that's safe," he said. "Every-



Michael Bendixen

About a third of the Philomath Frolic & Rodeo parade is made up of log trucks.

body seemed to rally around that idea. There was definitely a strong sentiment that we want to do something for the community to help in this kind of depressing, difficult time."

So, they canceled almost all the trappings of the traditional Frolic. There was no mutton busting, no mechanical bull riding and no grilled chicken. But there were fireworks.

"With fireworks, you can see 'em anywhere in town and stay socially distanced," Workman said.

The night of the event, a group of volunteers helped set up. A local high school student ran a camera so the show could be livestreamed on Facebook.

"The rodeo queen was there," Workman said. "Board members came in boots and hats and took donations. Anybody from anywhere could watch the show."

Workman now believes that one night could end up being the highlight of the year for Philomath.

"It was terrific. It was great," he said. "It was a fun summer night in a not so fun summer."

In the days leading up to the Philomath Frolic & Rodeo parade, you'll typically see local logging companies cleaning their finest trucks and equipment.

Last year, while his drivers were scrubbing the grime off his fleet of log trucks, Russell Watkins of Watkins Trucking was replacing his old mudflaps with shiny new Ameri-

can flags.

"Part of it, I guess, is probably showing off," he said. "Showing what you have, and pride in the community event. For a few years, there weren't very many trucks in the parade, and here lately there's been quite a few. I think it's helped bring some of the community spirit back to town. Philomath's been a timber town forever. So, it's good to get a little bit of timber back in the parade."

His wife and the company's co-owner, Lisa Watkins, said having log trucks in the parade shows support for an industry that faces ongoing controversy.

Watkins convinced her husband that he should drive his own truck in the parade for the 30-year anniversary of their business.

She said having log trucks in the parade shows support for an industry that faces ongoing controversy.

"I think that sometimes

people forget what industries are supporting your town," she said. "I think it's a good reminder that there's a lot of family wage jobs here in the timber industry still."

The timber industry has always been a part of the Philomath Frolic event, which in past years has been called the Buckaroo and Loggers Frolic, Frolic Timber Festival and the Frolic Lumberjack Carnival.

In recent years, it has featured a lumberjack competition organized by a local competitor named Cody Labahn. Competitors throw axes at targets, race to chop and saw through blocks of wood and leap up onto springboards to lop off the top of a 30-foot pillar.

"I just love this sport," Labahn said. "We've turned it into a competition but it's all stuff they had to do back in the day. They used to have to springboard up the butt end of the log just to get high enough into the tree to cut it down."

At last year's competition, longtime log chip truck driver Rick Wells came to watch the event and said it's one way to keep the culture of the timber industry alive.

"I've worked in the timber industry since 1983," he said. "A lot of mills have gone away that used to be here. That's the biggest change. There's almost no federal timber anymore. There's some but not like there used to be."

Great Columbia Crossing Virtual 10K / 5K

Race registration is \$40 and includes race bib, finisher medal, long sleeve T-shirt, coupon book and more.

Enjoy the perks of a virtual event:
Avoid the crowds. ✂ Pick your race course.
Choose your start time. ✂ Set your own pace.

GreatColumbiaCrossing.com

Registration is open now!

Complete your race between October 11-17, 2020.

ASTORIA WARRENTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

WANTED

Alder and Maple Saw Logs & Standing Timber

Northwest Hardwoods • Longview, WA

Contact: John Anderson • 360-269-2500