

IN BRIEF

Two Seaside men charged with attempted murder

Two Seaside men have been arraigned for attempted murder in the second degree.

Christopher Neil Quiggle-Boyer, 35, and Gary Alen Lane Gobin, 40, were arrested on Oct. 7 after an assault at a Seaside apartment that left three men injured.

Boyer was charged Thursday with attempted murder in the second degree, assault in the first degree, three counts of assault in the second degree, burglary in the first degree, two counts of unlawful use of a weapon and two counts of menacing.

Gobin was charged Friday with attempted murder in the second degree, assault in the first degree, two counts of assault in the second degree, burglary in the first degree, unlawful use of a weapon and menacing.

— *The Astorian*

DEATH

Oct. 17, 2020

HENDRICKSON, Virginia Sue, 41, of Astoria, died in Astoria. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary in Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

MEMORIALS

Saturday, Oct. 24
ANDRIESIAN, Lorraine Adelle — Memorial at 11 a.m., Warrenton First Baptist Church, 30 N.E. First St. in Warrenton, followed by a social hour and potluck, then a graveside service at Ocean View

Cemetery, 575 S.W. 18th St. in Warrenton. Flowers can be delivered to the Warrenton First Baptist Church. DEAL, Charles (Chuck) Warren — Burial at 2 p.m., Greenwood Cemetery, 91569 Oregon Highway 202.

BIRTH

Sept. 19, 2020

JENSEN, Jess, and PAINTER, Anthony, of Jewell, a girl, Haze Leigh Jeanette Painter, born at Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria. Grand-

parents are Pam and Ken Gibson, of Victor, Montana, Mike and Carrie Jensen, of San Jose, California, Jeanette Painter, of Astoria, and Timothy Painter, of Seaside.

CORRECTIONS

Wrong date — Floyd Holcom, a candidate for Astoria City Council, grew up in Astoria and returned in 2003 after military service in Iraq. An A1 story on Thursday incorrectly said he returned in 2005.

Construction date, school name — The Frank Patton residence

at 636 14th St. was constructed in 1902 and served as a convent for teachers at St. Mary Star of the Sea School. An A1 story on Aug. 29 incorrectly stated it was constructed in 1920 and later used as a convent for the Young Ladies Catholic Academy.

ON THE RECORD

Assault

• Lynsi Jewell, 35, of Warrenton, was arrested Saturday on S.W. Harbor Place in Warrenton for assault in the fourth degree, menacing and strangulation.

Harassment

• Chase Daniel Rusinovich, 23, of Astoria, was arrested Saturday on Bond Street in Astoria for harassment.

Attempting to elude

• Samuel Alvin Darling, 46, of Portland, was arrested Friday on U.S.

Highway 30 for attempting to elude police officers and reckless driving.

• Robin Deen Richardson, 68, of Gearhart, was arraigned Friday for attempting to elude a police officer, reckless driving and recklessly endangering another person.

Unlawful vehicle use

• Jeremy P. Barber, 43, of Gig Harbor, Washington, was arrested Saturday at the foot of 22nd Street in Astoria for unlawful use of a motor vehicle.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

TUESDAY

Union Health District of Clatsop County Board, 8 a.m., Seaside Convention Center, 415 First Ave.

Port of Astoria Commission, 4 p.m., (electronic meeting).

Astoria Historic Landmarks Commission, 5:15 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District Board, 5:15 p.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside.

Seaside School District, 6 p.m., (electronic meeting).

Shoreline Sanitary District Board, 7 p.m., Gearhart Hertig Station, 33496 West Lake Lane, Warrenton.

WEDNESDAY

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

Seaside Tourism Advisory Committee, 3 p.m., 989 Broadway.

THURSDAY

Sunset Empire Transportation District Board, 9 a.m., workshop, (electronic meeting).

Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce, noon, (electronic meeting).

Clatsop County Recreational Lands Planning Advisory Committee, 1 p.m., (electronic meeting).

the Astorian

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CLAMMING

Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian
Elizabeth Cronen pushes her clam gun into the wet sand at Sunset Beach on Thursday evening.



AP Photo

The Biglow Canyon Wind Farm in the Columbia River Gorge. In 2019, wind cost roughly \$41 per megawatt hour, compared with \$109 for coal.

Questions linger on Oregon's coal-free future

By NICK ROSENBERGER
For EO Media Group

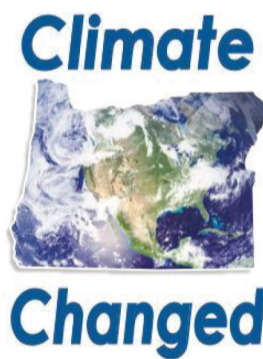
Every day, electricity crackles across power lines hanging over the sparsely populated counties of Umatilla, Morrow, Gilliam and Sherman that border the Columbia River. With the ongoing global climate crisis, the debate about how this electricity can be produced by cleaner, renewable energy continues to heat up.

Nowhere is this more obvious than with the case of Portland General Electric's attempts to shift away from coal-generated electricity. As the state's last coal-fired plant closed last week, utilities are facing a complex road ahead to close the gap between renewable and nonrenewable generation.

PGE, along with NextEra Energy — one of North America's leading renewable energy companies — is building the Wheatridge Renewable Energy facility in Morrow County. The 380-megawatt facility will employ wind, solar and battery storage as one of the nation's largest emissions-free electricity producers. It will open this year to power 100,000 homes.

Despite breaking records for Oregon's largest renewable energy facility, however, it will not fully cover the roughly 600 megawatts produced by the now shuttered Boardman coal-fired plant. This raises a series of questions about how utilities will fulfill the needs of Oregonians while promoting a cleaner, sustainable future for energy generation.

PGE and Oregon's other providers, such as PacifiCorp, have several avenues forward in the coming years as the effects of climate change continue to ravage parts of the state.



Declining cost of renewable energy

The most popular option for Oregon, and most beneficial for combating climate change, is expanding the state's renewable energy infrastructure. It is likely the best, cheapest and safest option that utilities can undertake.

petitive with traditional non-renewable energy sources such as coal. In 2019, wind cost roughly \$41 per megawatt hour, compared with \$109 for coal.

And, while 2016 legislation set a goal of 50% new renewable energy production in the state by 2040, many experts believe it can reach an even higher percentage.

"Most people who work in the electricity industry agree that anywhere from 80-90% of renewable energy is totally doable," said Rebecca Smith, a senior policy analyst at the Oregon Department of Energy. "That last 10% is where you see a lot more difference of opinion between people," she said.

DESPITE BREAKING RECORDS FOR OREGON'S LARGEST RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITY, HOWEVER, IT WILL NOT FULLY COVER THE ROUGHLY 600 MEGAWATTS PRODUCED BY THE NOW SHUTTERED BOARDMAN COAL-FIRED PLANT.

However, it comes with its own set of limitations and challenges.

As technology advances, Oregon utilities have recognized the evolution of the industry as the costs of renewables decrease and consumer appetite increases. Over the past decade, the cost of solar energy generation has fallen 89% and wind power costs have been trimmed by 70%, according to Lazard's 2019 Levelized Cost of Energy Analysis.

These decreases have made renewables more com-

According to Robertson, getting beyond 80% to 90% renewable energy would be expensive to implement, offers diminishing returns and puts the system's resiliency at risk.

Switching entirely to renewable energy would put the state's electrical grid at risk of not meeting Oregon's electrical demands, according to industry experts.

Weather patterns play a role

"You cannot turn the wind on and off when you need it, or the sun," said Steve Corson, a spokesperson for PGE. "They are variable. Their output may come and go during any given day and we need other resources that we can turn on and off to ensure reliable supply for customers."

The diminishing returns and reliability factor of renewables force utilities to rely on energy sources that can be stockpiled in case of emergencies and called upon when needed. These "dispatchable resources," such as coal or natural gas, can be used to stabilize the electricity system if the renewable energy system fails to generate enough power, according to Corson.

In the future, however, reliance on dispatchable resources could decline with a diversified electrical grid and new technologies that meet consumer demand every second of every day. These new capabilities add another safety net to meeting the needs of Oregonians.

New technologies

Along with the increasing amount of renewable energy, utilities are developing technologies to expand

See *Coal-free future*, Page A3