

IN BRIEF

Two arrested in robbery and stabbing

Police are investigating a stabbing that occurred Sunday night during an alleged drug deal in Astoria.

Officials say two suspects met a man near Nehalem Avenue before 9 p.m. to conduct a drug deal. When they met, the suspects reportedly tried to rob the man with a BB gun and replica handguns.

The man reportedly produced a knife. Police say the suspects then produced knives and stabbed the victim in the right arm before fleeing on foot.

Police located the two suspects early Monday morning and arrested 18 year-old Dylan Bernier, of Wellington, Florida, and a 17 year-old from Astoria for robbery in the first degree, assault in the second degree, menacing and unlawful use of a weapon.

The 17 year-old was lodged at the Yamhill County Juvenile Detention Center and Bernier was lodged at the Clatsop County Jail.

The victim was treated for his injuries and released.

Anyone with information about the incident or who has video in the 300 block of Nehalem Avenue and the 1700 and 1800 blocks of Fourth Street are asked to contact Detective Nicole Riley at 503-741-6118 or by email at nriley@astoria.or.us.

Warrenton teenager injured in crash

A 19-year-old from Warrenton was seriously injured Saturday morning after he was struck by a vehicle.

Officials say the teenager was crossing an intersection on foot near Alternative U.S. Highway 101 and S. Main Avenue at about 6:20 a.m. when he was struck by a pickup truck.

He reportedly had a visible head injury and was flown to a Portland-area hospital.

The driver involved in the crash was not cited.

— *The Astorian*

New restrictions on coastal steelhead fishery

LONG BEACH, Wash. — New gear and harvest restrictions went into effect this month for the coastal steelhead fishery after weeks of the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife pondering how to handle the fisheries' continued shortcomings.

The state's fish and wildlife commission held a special meeting via Zoom on Dec. 11 to receive public comments on the newly announced restrictions. Approximately 512 people watched the online meeting and dozens signed up to offer their opinions and remarks.

State officials held a town hall meeting two weeks prior, on Nov. 24, to explain the state of the steelhead fishery along the Washington coast and to explain four options they had devised for handling the 2020-2021 season:

- Close the fishery early between Mar. 1 and April 15;
- Only allow steelhead fishing on the Quillayute River;
- Apply gear and harvest restrictions;
- Close the fishery statewide to allow the fishery a better chance to rebound.

— *Chinook Observer*

DEATHS

Dec. 20, 2020

HALL, Benjamin, 46, of Portland, died in Seaside. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

JENSEN, William, 78, of Warrenton, died in Warrenton. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

NIEMI, George, 71, of Astoria, died in Astoria. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

Dec. 19, 2020

BECHTOLT, Herbert, 72, of Warrenton, died in Astoria. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

MARSHALL, Robert, 68, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

Dec. 18, 2020

HURNER, Chris-

time Ann, 67, of Warrenton, died in Warrenton. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

Dec. 17, 2020

ECKERT, Sheri, 59, of Portland, died in Seaside. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

LAUGHLIN, Paul, 55, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

Dec. 15, 2020

HARRIS, Emily, 39, of Astoria, died in Astoria. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

Dec. 13, 2020

KIMMEL, Norma, 66, of Astoria, died in Portland. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

MERRY AND BRIGHT



Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

Oliver Montesano plays next to a decorated tree at the Columbia Memorial Hospital Health and Wellness Park last week. Columbia Memorial employees Kristen Moss and Megan Hutchinson organized the lights and holiday decorations twisting through the labyrinth.

'Long haulers' recount virus's toll in Oregon

By SUZANNE ROIG

The Bulletin

Jean Jones doesn't even ask any more if her family members smell the same thing she does.

The 64-year-old great-grandmother from Madras knows now the problem is a lingering side effect of having the coronavirus.

Bend resident Shira Franklin has a compromised immune system and a lack of energy months after having COVID-19. She's been like this since July and still fears getting the virus again because her doctor has said the immunity will only last a couple of weeks.

And then there's the social stigma of being a so-called long hauler. When each of the women said they had COVID-19, people literally stepped away from them.

For the thousands who have voiced their concerns on Facebook groups and other social media platforms as long-haul survivors of the virus, COVID-19 is like a guest that stays too long.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention admits that little is known about the long term effects of COVID-19. The CDC states that most people recover fully and some have lingering symptoms that last for weeks or months. Even people who are never sick enough to be hospitalized can experience lingering side effects, according to the CDC.

Jones came down with symptoms on Nov. 3. A member of the Central Oregon Mask Makers group, she and her mother helped make thousands of fabric masks that were given away to St. Charles Health System's medical professionals, members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and anyone



Dean Guernsey/The Bulletin

Loretta Cummings, 96, Jean Jones, 64, Addilyn Pattenaude, 8 months, and Jasmine Rowley, 20, in their Madras home.

else who wanted one.

And even though she intellectually understood about the virus, she wasn't convinced that it was truly as bad as medical professionals made it out to be.

"I had been on the fence about the COVID," said Jones from her home. "I knew it was bad, but I didn't know if it was really all that bad."

"It's definitely real now." While she talked about how she felt at first, she said the dates run into each other. Her symptoms began with an annoying cough, which she at first thought were allergies. Then the fatigue set in.

Her eyes felt like thousands of needles were poking her. She slept for 18 hours straight. Then came the fever.

Everything was an effort. Going to the bathroom. Standing up. Walking.

"It all runs together and I have no concept of time," Jones said. "No taste. No smell. Congestion. I thought it was the flu."

She finally called her doctor, who told her to come by for a drive-through test. When the medical practitioner came out to her car dressed in full personal protective equipment, she got worried, but still didn't think she had COVID-19.

Two days later, she got confirmation. COVID-19.

The worst part of the entire ordeal was she infected her 96-year-old mother, granddaughter and granddaughter's boyfriend, Jones said.

"You feel like a piece of dog biscuit," she said. "I feel guilty that everyone got it. I don't know who brought it in." Her mom spent a week in the hospital and has recovered. Her granddaughter didn't have symptoms and her boyfriend lost his sense of taste and had a fever for a day, Jones said.

Of the three who were sick, Jones is the only one with lingering side effects. It's been more than a month and she smells things that no one else does and is still fatigued easily. A trip to the store requires a nap. Sometimes making dinner is an effort.

"We really need to take this seriously," Jones said.

The World Health Organization estimates that people typically recover in two to six weeks from COVID-19, but some people may have lingering symptoms following an initial recovery.

Franklin, who worked in a small restaurant in Redmond, got sick in July. Although recovered, she still doesn't feel like herself pre-COVID-19,

she said.

"I don't think any of us really do recover fully," said Franklin, 36.

The journey from symptom to a positive test started with breathing difficulties, she said. At first the doctor thought she had bronchitis, but opted to test her for COVID-19 just in case. He sent her back to work because she didn't have any COVID-19 symptoms, Franklin said.

"When I got the call that the test was positive, that I had COVID, I hung up and went to my manager and told him. He told me not to touch anything," Franklin said. "I cried for an hour in my car, not because I had it, but I was fearful with my asthma, and I realized I had put my boss and my roommates at risk."

No one else around Franklin ever got sick. That's the oddest thing about COVID-19: it skips some and pumnels others.

Franklin's pretty sure she got it while working as a server at the restaurant. Dine-in customers were allowed to remove their masks while being seated at the table under the Oregon government mandates at the time.

Months later, Franklin has trouble with her taste buds and sometimes her energy lags. It will take months for her immune system to return to normal, she said. And she's never going to be safe from COVID-19 until it's tamped down.

"When people hear I had it, they step back and look at you and ask what did you do to get it," Franklin said. "People have asked me if I was partying or not wearing a mask. Nope, I did everything I was supposed to do."

"I've never been so depressed," she said. "I felt so alone."

Offices around North Coast close for Christmas

The Astorian

In observance of Christmas Day, all federal and state offices are closed Friday. County and city offices in Astoria and Gearhart are open a half-day on Thursday and are closed Friday; Cannon Beach city offices are closed Thursday and Friday; and Seaside and Warrenton city offices are closed Friday.

All U.S. post offices are closed Friday, and there is no mail delivery.

Astoria, Jewell, Knappa, Warrenton/Hammond and Seaside (including Cannon

Beach and Gearhart) school district schools, and Clatsop Community College, are closed for winter break.

The Astoria Library and Warrenton Library are closed Thursday and Friday; the Seaside Library closes at 5 p.m. Thursday and is closed Friday.

The Port of Astoria offices and services are closed Thursday and Friday.

Warrenton and Recology Western Oregon garbage collection customers whose normal service day is Friday will have their garbage picked up on Saturday. Recology Western Oregon's transfer station

closes at 2 p.m. Thursday and is closed Friday.

The Sunset Pool in Seaside and Astoria Aquatic Center are closed.

The Clatsop County Heritage Museum, Oregon Film Museum, Flavel House Museum and Carriage House are closed Thursday and Friday. The Uppertown Firefighters' Museum is closed for the winter.

Lil' Sprouts and Fort Clatsop are closed Thursday and Friday. The Columbia River Maritime Museum is closed Friday. The Seaside Museum is closed.

Sunset Empire Transportation ("The Bus") is not running Friday.

The Astorian offices are closed Friday, but the Saturday newspaper will be printed and delivered as usual.

the Astorian

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Merry Christmas Courtney Ann My Angel in Heaven

Aug. 21, 1982 - Dec. 22, 2001

...don't worry about the future, He's got it under control."

- Courtney Guenther

I Miss You So Much

Love always, forever and ever and ever,

Dadio