

IN BRIEF

Woman dies in New Year's Day fire

SEASIDE — Police are working to establish a detailed timeline of a New Year's Day fire that took the life of a Seaside woman.

Bonnie Bentley Dasse, 69, was the sole occupant of the two-story, single-family home at 741 Seventh Ave.

Police arrived at the scene moments after a 911 call at 4:57 p.m. and assisted firefighters with the investigation. Detectives are looking for anyone who witnessed the fire or has been given information from someone who did.

People with information can contact Detective William Barnes or Detective Sgt. Josh Gregory at 503-738-6311.

— *The Astorian*

Willapa River hits flood stage

LONG BEACH, Wash. — Heavy rains pushed the Willapa River over its minor flood stage of 21 feet on Sunday, cresting at 21.06 feet around 7:45 a.m.

The hardest-hit area has been the area of Old Willapa and Heckard Road outside Raymond, which has been covered with floodwater.

A potent winter storm barraged the region with strong winds and heavy rainfall. Between 9:15 a.m. on Saturday and 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, approximately 3.75 inches of rain fell over the Willapa Hills.

— *Chinook Observer*

Merkley, Bonamici sworn in

U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley and U.S. Rep. Suzanne Bonamici were sworn in on Sunday for new terms in Congress.

Merkley, an Oregon Democrat, was sworn into his third six-year term. Bonamici, an Oregon Democrat, was sworn into her fifth two-year term.

"This is a challenging time for our country," said Bonamici, whose district includes the North Coast. "The coronavirus pandemic has brought stress and grief to NW Oregon and throughout our country. Too many have lost loved ones, and we've experienced devastating economic hardship. But Oregonians are resilient, and there is hope on the horizon."

— *The Astorian*

DEATHS

Jan. 3, 2021

NICHOLS, Jerry Daniel, 80, of Svensen, died in Svensen. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

Jan. 2, 2021

GILL, Daniel James, 61, of Deep River, Washington, died in Deep River. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service of Astoria is in charge of the

arrangements.

Jan. 1, 2021

ARNOLD, David E., 69, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

FERGUSON, Carol E., 76, of Hammond, died in Seaside. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

ON THE RECORD

Assault

• Spencer Blackwell, 33, of Astoria, was arrested Friday on Glasgow Avenue in Astoria for assault in the fourth degree.

• Kegan Michael French, 35, of Warrenton, was arrested Wednesday on U.S. Highway 101 in Warrenton for assault in the fourth degree, criminal trespass and harassment.

Burglary

• Joel Seda, 38, was arrested Friday on S.E. Second Street in Warrenton for burglary in the second degree, criminal mischief in the second degree, criminal trespass in the second degree and theft of services in the third degree.

Unlawful use of weapon

• Dale Allen Blackburn, 38, of Warrenton, was arrested Sunday on S.E. Howard Street in Astoria for unlawful use of a weapon and disorderly conduct in the second degree.

DUII

• Kayla Short, 26, of Portland, was arrested Saturday near the Hammond Marina for driving under the influence of intoxicants after driving into the Columbia River.

• Joe Doran, 56, was arrested Wednesday on S. Main Avenue and N. Main Avenue in Warrenton for DUII.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

TUESDAY

Clatsop County Board of Commissioners, noon, work session, (electronic meeting).

Clatsop Care Health District Board, 5 p.m., (electronic meeting).

Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District Board of Directors, 5:15 p.m., workshop, (electronic meeting).

Cannon Beach City Council, 7 p.m., (electronic meeting).

WEDNESDAY

Gearhart City Council, 6 p.m., 670 Pacific Way.

THURSDAY

Astoria Design Review Commission, 5:30 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

Cannon Beach City Council, 5:30 p.m., work session, (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

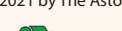
MEMBER CERTIFIED AUDIT OF CIRCULATIONS, INC.

Circulation phone number:
503-325-3211

Periodicals postage paid at Astoria, OR
ADVERTISING OWNERSHIP
All advertising copy and illustrations prepared by The Astorian become the property of The Astorian and may not be reproduced for any use without explicit prior approval.

COPYRIGHT ©

Entire contents © Copyright, 2021 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



Mike Shields

Kayakers float on a flooded field near Tucker Creek Lane after heavy rains.

Oregon to phase out most uses of chlorpyrifos by end of 2023

By GEORGE PLAVEN
Capital Press

SALEM — Oregon is moving forward with a final rule to phase out most uses of the pesticide chlorpyrifos by the end of 2023.

Chlorpyrifos was approved for use on more than 50 crops statewide — including Christmas trees, hazelnuts, grass seed, alfalfa, sugar beets and cranberries — but garnered controversy after studies showed it may have harmful neurological effects, especially in children.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture convened a 13-member workgroup in December 2019 to evaluate potential health and safety restrictions for chlorpyrifos. Members represented industry and environmental groups, farmworker advocates and public health experts.

Legislation to ban chlorpyrifos also passed the Oregon House last year, before stalling in the Senate amid the Republican walkout.

Ultimately, the Department of Agriculture crafted a three-year phaseout that immediately classifies chlorpyrifos as a restricted-use pesticide. The rule, formally adopted Dec. 15, stops short of a complete ban and will continue to allow certain uses, such as cattle ear tags, preplant seed treatments and granular formulations aimed at controlling soil-borne pests.

"We feel like we came up with a rule that gives some flexibility to the agricultural community, and is protective of workers, bystanders and water quality," said Rose Kachadoorian, the Department of Agriculture's pesticides program manager. "We will work with the industries as best we can to help find alternatives."

As of Jan. 1, chlorpyri-



Associated Press

Oregon researchers are exploring alternatives to chlorpyrifos, but they say they do not have sufficient funding to do the work.

fos may no longer be used to spray for mosquitoes, on golf courses or inside greenhouses unless they meet minimum ventilation standards.

Aerial spraying of chlorpyrifos is prohibited on all crops, except for Christmas trees within a short window from April 1 through June 15. Farmworkers cannot reenter fields for at least four days after the last application.

Also beginning this year, only licensed applicators may use and handle chlorpyrifos. In the past, unlicensed employees could spray if they were supervised by someone who is licensed.

Buffer zones have been increased around sensitive sites and bodies of water. For aerial applications or nontargeted air-blast sprayers, the buffer is 300 feet. For targeted air-blast sprayers, the buffer is 150 feet, and for other ground-based equipment, it is 60 feet.

Sensitive sites include farmworker housing units, though not farm residences or nonresidential agricultural buildings such as barns and livestock facilities. That

is based on feedback from farm groups, Kachadoorian said.

"There was some concern that they have control over their own properties, and that to actually put a buffer there would take away a lot of land when they could just basically leave," she said. "So we allowed that particular option."

Farm residences are already covered by protections in the federal Application Exclusion Zone, part of the U.S. Agricultural Worker Protection Standard.

Mixing and loading chlorpyrifos can only be done by licensed applicators or by those who successfully complete a Department of Agriculture-approved training course after March 1.

Farms will be required to keep and maintain records for three years after each application.

Finally, after Dec. 31, 2023, it will become illegal to use or sell chlorpyrifos in the state except for cattle ear tags, seed treatment and granular formulations.

"We believe that with our (protective) measures, the phaseout of December 2023

is appropriate," Kachadoorian said.

Jenny Dresler, a lobbyist for the Oregon Farm Bureau and Oregonians for Food and Shelter, said the groups are still reviewing the final rule, though it does not appear to identify proposed alternatives or provide public funding for research.

"These are very significant restrictions," Dresler said. "We are going to be looking for an investment so growers aren't left without any tools down the road."

Kachadoorian said it is unlikely the state will dedicate any assistance from the general fund, especially when the Legislature is dealing with the coronavirus pandemic and 2020 fire season.

However, Oregon State University did receive a \$162,794 specialty crop block grant from the Department of Agriculture earlier this year to study alternatives to chlorpyrifos.

"We really intend to be meeting with other industries and find out what we can do to help them be able to grow their crops effectively," Kachadoorian said.

'Panic' in Depoe Bay after tsunami sirens activated to warn of high winds

By ROB DAVIS
The Oregonian

Let us start with the lesson, perhaps: Don't use a tsunami siren to warn about gusty winds.

Fire officials in Depoe Bay said Saturday that they had been flooded with calls "of concern and panic" after the city activated its emergency tsunami sirens to alert residents to a forthcoming high wind watch.

"This was apparently an alert for the anticipated weather system approaching us," Depoe Bay Fire Chief Bryan Daniels wrote on Facebook. "There is no tsunami

threat to Depoe Bay or properties within the district."

Wind gusts hit 84 mph at Cape Perpetua and Cape Foulweather, 75 mph at the Yaquina Bay Bridge and 55 mph at the Newport Airport.

City officials didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

Residents and visitors described a state of discommodulated alarm after the sirens began howling.

A visitor, Leah Godfrey, said she sprinted to her car after hearing the sirens sound. "Please reserve the doomsday siren for actual doomsday," she wrote on Facebook.

One Depoe Bay resident,



Jamie Hale/The Oregonian

A visitor watches waves crash into the rocks during a winter storm at Boiler Bay, a state park site in Depoe Bay.

DeAnne Haubner Norton, wrote: "Are we going to have an alert every time the wind gets a bit blustery? If we do that every time, a real threat will come along and every one will ignore it."

"We look forward to partnering with the City of Depoe

Bay to avoid hysteria in the future," Daniels wrote on Facebook.

Depoe Bay installed its tsunami sirens in 2013. Extensive parts of the city sit in the tsunami inundation zone in the case of a major Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake.