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CORONAVIRUS



Clatsop County

Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community drained a reservoir in August 2019 to repair a drain pipe.

Tragedy after fishing boat capsizes

Two dead at Tillamook Bay

By NICOLE BALES
The Astorian

Two fishermen from Warrenton died after a 38-foot commercial fishing boat capsized Saturday at the Tillamook Bay bar entrance.

The U.S. Coast Guard was watching the Coastal Reign as a precaution as the Warrenton-based vessel crossed the bar.

The boat capsized at about 4:40 p.m. All four people on board entered the water and were recovered by 6 p.m. and taken to hospital.

Two people were located in the water and recovered by a boat team, according to the Coast Guard. One was unresponsive.

One person climbed onto rocks at a nearby jetty and was rescued by an aircrew.

The fourth person was eventually recovered by a boat team by the jetty near debris that was floating. The person was unresponsive and died.

Family members said Todd Chase, a 51-year-old Warrenton man, died after he was recovered by jetty rocks. A GoFundMe page was set up to support Chase's wife and children.

The family of Zach Zappone, 41, of Warrenton, said he died after being taken to a Portland hospital in critical condition. Zappone's family also set up a GoFundMe page.

Tillamook County Sheriff's Office



After fish deaths, state fines Fishhawk Lake Reserve

A \$439,200 penalty

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Astorian

BIRKENFELD — The state has fined Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community \$439,200 for draining a reservoir and allegedly killing more than 30,000 fish. The homeowners association plans to appeal the fine.

Fishhawk Lake is a private community around a reservoir formed in the 1960s by an earthen dam. The homeowners association maintains the lake, processes water and treats sewage.

The lake, considered state waters, feeds into Fishhawk Creek and the Nehalem River. The homeowners association drained the lake in August 2019 to fix a broken drain in the dam.

An investigation by the state found that draining the lake and the turbidity it caused downstream killed 30,391 fish, includ-



Edward Stratton/The Astorian

Fishhawk Lake north of Birkenfeld was formed in the 1960s after the construction of an earthen dam along Fishhawk Creek.

ing 20,539 endangered coho salmon, 4,047 steelhead trout, 5,346 cutthroat trout and 459 trout of undetermined species.

"The draining of the lake killed fish that were sucked through the underdrain to

Fishhawk Creek by depleting dissolved oxygen in Fishhawk Creek," the state Department of Environmental Quality wrote in a notice of penalty.

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BY THE NUMBERS: FISH DEATHS

30,391

Total number of fish killed by the draining of Fishhawk Lake and the turbidity it caused downstream, according to an investigation by the state.

20,539

Number of endangered coho salmon killed

4,047

Number of steelhead trout killed

5,346

Number of cutthroat trout killed

459

Number of trout of undetermined species

'THE DRAINING OF THE LAKE KILLED FISH THAT WERE SUCKED THROUGH THE UNDERDRAIN TO FISHHAWK CREEK BY DEPLETING DISSOLVED OXYGEN IN FISHHAWK CREEK.'

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Bill would help with spinal muscular atrophy

Local family advocates for newborn screening

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Astorian

A bill has been introduced in the state Legislature to require screening for spinal muscular atrophy, helped in part by a local family whose child has the neuromuscular condition.

State Rep. Rob Nosse said a group of advocates reached out to him after the Oregon Health Authority decided not to join 33 other states that test newborns for spinal muscular atrophy.

The degenerative spinal condition, a form of muscular dystrophy, is the most common genetic cause of death in infants and impacts as many as 25,000 Americans.

Nosse doesn't know why the health authority

See Bill, Page A6

Artist focuses on inclusivity

Hurd hopes work conveys warmth

By NICOLE BALES
The Astorian

Art has always been an outlet for Autumn Eve Montgomery Hurd, but over the past couple of years, her work has become more visible around town.

A lot of Hurd's art is centered around queer representation, body positivity and female empowerment. The 26-year-old hopes her work can convey a sense of

warmth and positivity to people who feel the most marginalized. She sells her art on stickers at businesses, including Doe and Arrow, Columbia River Coffee Roaster and Gathered. She has also had retailers and other people reach out to her through Instagram and her Etsy shop for commissions.

Soon she will be one of the local artists featured at Foragers, a new business expected to open downtown in March.



Autumn Hurd's art often involves portraits.



One of Autumn Hurd's favorite drawings.

AutumnEvesArt



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