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CORONAVIRUS

VACCINES

County optimistic about rollout

Task force hopes to catch up after delays

By NICOLE BALES
The Astorian

Clatsop County's vaccine task force, which has fallen behind because of an inadequate supply of vaccines, expects to begin vaccinating seniors 70 years and older against the coronavirus.

The task force is moving down the priority list after most teachers and seniors 80 and older have been vaccinated. About 1,400 people are expected to receive first doses at upcoming vaccination events, including a large event on Thursday planned to administer 1,000 doses.

People 65 and older are eligible for the vaccine in Oregon, but the county will move to that age group as supplies allow.

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Homeless liaisons to lead outreach

Idea grew out of city task force

By NICOLE BALES
The Astorian

Clatsop County will soon have two liaisons dedicated to connecting homeless people to social services, along with gathering data and addressing gaps in outreach.

The positions, funded by the county and Clatsop Community Action, grew out of an Astoria task force on homelessness. The liaisons will work under Clatsop Community Action and the agency is trying to secure continuous funding into the future.

Viviana Matthews, the agency's executive director, said about 20 people applied for what was initially one position.

The task force envisioned at least two people serving the homeless throughout the county, but limited the position to one due to funding constraints. After securing additional money, Clatsop Community Action hired two people.

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Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

The Shively family has a crypt at Astoria Pioneer Cemetery.

Astoria will consider older name for historic cemetery

Some unease about the term 'pioneer'

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Astorian

Nobody knows how many bodies are buried in the cemetery at the top of the hill in Astoria.

This spring, students and instructors with Clatsop Community College's historic preservation and restoration program are documenting the Astoria Pioneer Cemetery off Niagara Avenue. They plan to clean and possibly repair the few remaining grave markers and carve a new entrance sign.

While this work won't uncover answers to many questions people have about the property, it will help inform future decisions about how to enhance visitor enjoyment and understanding of the cemetery and its history.

It may also lead to a name change.

There is unease about how the term "pioneer" — a title applied to the cemetery in the late 1960s — glosses over a complicated and brutal history between native tribes and European settlers.

Given the additional uncertainty of who exactly is still buried at the cemetery, some have suggested the name is no longer accurate — and may have never been accurate. They say the carving of the new entrance sign could be an opportunity to return to the cemetery's original name: Hillside.

"It's really so unclear on who is up there and do these people even qualify as so-called pioneers?" said John Goodenberger, a local historian and preservationist.

Goodenberger has provided historical documents and information to city leaders to help them when they discuss the matter at a City Council meeting in April.

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Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

An obelisk for a member of the Warren family is at Astoria Pioneer Cemetery.



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Locals erected the Astoria Pioneer Cemetery sign.

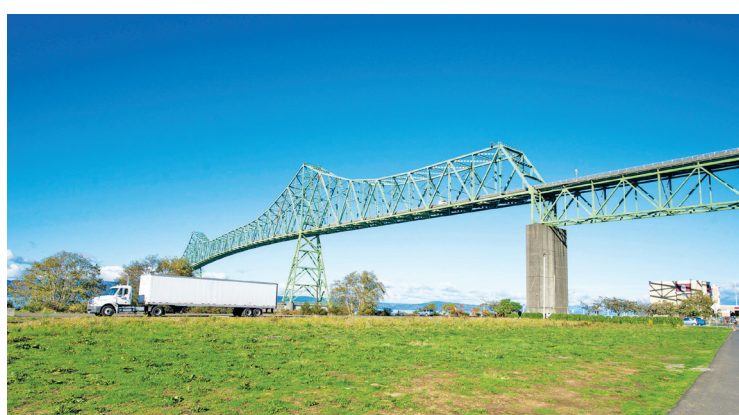
Astoria, Port partner on master plan for waterfront

A prime location for development

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Astorian

The city and the Port of Astoria have taken the first step toward a master plan for a swath of underutilized waterfront around the West Mooring Basin between Pier 1 and the Astoria Bridge.

The Port laid the groundwork during the coronavirus pandemic, demolishing the crumbling former Seafare Restaurant and emp-



A master plan is in the works for the waterfront in Uniontown.

tying the Chinook Building, a dilapidated commercial complex overlooking the marina.

The Astoria Development Commission, an arm of the City Council that controls urban renewal funds, on Thursday

approved paying to hire a consultant that will create a plan by September for a mixed-use neighborhood around the marina.

The Port's central waterfront represents one of the city's main areas of vacant and underutilized

land for commercial and residential development. The area abuts Uniontown, where the city recently finished a master plan to revitalize the neighborhood and preserve views of the Columbia River.

The Port has contemplated marketing the area around the aging Astoria Riverwalk Inn to private developers. Just east on Portway Street and Marine Drive, developer Chester Trabucco is planning a large complex of affordable apartments made from shipping containers. Hotelier Mark Hollander leases a strip of vacant land from the Port near Maritime Memorial Park, where he could build a new Marriott hotel.

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State sides with Cannon Beach on dune grading

No grading to preserve views

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Astorian

CANNON BEACH — The state rejected an appeal from two homeowners associations and will uphold the city's new, more restrictive dune management plan that eliminates the ability to grade to preserve views.

The Breakers Point and Chapman Point communities, located at the north end of the city, filed an appeal with the Land Use Board of Appeals last April after city leaders approved a new dune

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