

IN BRIEF

State to direct extra vaccine doses to county

The Clatsop County vaccine task force administered 900 first doses of the coronavirus vaccine on Thursday, its largest vaccination event yet.

The task force expects to administer 1,500 doses at five vaccination events scheduled in the coming days for priority groups, including teachers and seniors over 70 years old.

As of Friday, 11,168 doses have been administered in the county, including 7,464 first doses and 3,704 second doses.

The county's goal is to reach herd immunity against the virus by vaccinating 27,533 people.

The Oregon Health Authority said Friday it will provide extra doses to seven counties lagging in vaccinating seniors. Clatsop County is expected to receive 700 extra doses to help catch up.

County, Warrenton approve enterprise zone expansion

Clatsop County commissioners on Wednesday approved applications by Buoy Beer and Pilot House Distilling's parent company, River Barrel Brewing Inc., and fishmeal company Scouler to join the Clatsop Enterprise Zone.

Entry requires approval from the four participating jurisdictions — the county, Astoria, Warrenton and the Port of Astoria. Businesses in the enterprise zone receive five years of property tax breaks on new investment.

The Astoria City Council and Warrenton City Commission also approved the applications this month.

River Barrel is planning an \$8 million expansion of its waterfront campus, and Scouler plans to spend \$10 million on a new fishmeal plant near the Astoria Regional Airport.

Deadline approaches for May elections

Clatsop County residents interested in running for a position on a local governing board in the May elections have until 5 p.m. on Thursday to file.

Positions on the boards of more than 30 local service districts are up for election.

Three spots are open on the Port of Astoria Commission. Dirk Rhone, the president of the Port Commission, along with Commissioner James Campbell and Commissioner Frank Spence, have filed for reelection.

Four positions are up for grabs on the Sunset Empire Transportation District Board, along with two on the Clatsop Care Health District Board and five on the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District Board. Numerous positions are open on the governing boards of water, fire, sewer and rural law enforcement districts.

In education, four positions are open on the Clatsop Community College Board, three on the Astoria School District Board, four on the Warrenton-Hammond School District Board, four on the Seaside School District Board, three on the Knappa School District Board and three on the Jewell School District Board.

Candidate filing forms and information on the requirements for each service district is available on the county's website.

— The Astorian

DEATHS

March 9, 2021
KNAPP, Carolyn Jean, 79, of Astoria, died in Astoria. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

March 6, 2021
NYBERG, Hazel, 66, of Astoria, died in Warrenton. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

March 3, 2021
COLBERT, Carolyn, 81, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

Feb. 28, 2021
SHERLOCK, Rebecca, 78, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

Feb. 26, 2021
ENEVOLDSEN, Jane, 97, of Nehalem, died in Nehalem. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

Feb. 26, 2021
LAWRENCE, Donald, 69, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

Feb. 26, 2021
ENEVOLDSEN, Jane, 97, of Nehalem, died in Nehalem. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

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New leadership in place at Astoria Warming Center

By NICOLE BALES
The Astorian

As the winter season comes to a close, the Astoria Warming Center is planning for next season with new leadership.

The warming center operates an emergency shelter for the homeless during the winter months in the basement of First United Methodist Church.

Last year, the warming center's board hired Kathleen Sullivan, a former Clatsop County commissioner, as executive director, and also brought on other paid staff, a significant step for the volunteer-run organization. However, the board announced this month that Sullivan is no longer serving in the position.

Sullivan chose not to comment on her departure.

"The Astoria Warming Center is so grateful to the support of our community during this challenging year," Danielle Hall, the board's president, said in an email.

"We have faced obstacles due to the pandemic, but also had a great opportunity to expand our organization. Kathleen Sullivan stepped into a brand new role last fall, as we'd never had an executive director before. We are grateful for her willingness to come into an evolving organization. We were able to fulfill our mission of providing our guests with shelter from



Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

Volunteers heat up soup and prepare dinner last year at the Astoria Warming Center.

the winter weather.

"The challenges we've faced this season and the increasing needs for sustainable solutions to homelessness in Astoria (and the state of Oregon) gave us clarity about the qualities we need in an executive director. We have no doubt that Kathleen has a heart for these issues, but she wasn't a good fit."

The board appointed Teresa Barnes, an advocate and volunteer for the warming center, as interim executive director.

"Teresa is a longtime advocate for solutions to end homelessness in our community," Hall said. "She's volunteered for several years at the AWC and worked to support other organizations. This year, she came on board full time supporting guests in the center and doing community outreach. Teresa has amazing vision and optimism, and we know she'll be indispensable as we assess the season's challenges and look forward to serving our community in the future."

The board will open up the hiring process for a permanent executive director. Hall said the board will be looking for "a leader and teammate with a spirit of collaboration, communication and empathy for the unsheltered."

Barnes said she will be reaching out to the people and organizations working on homelessness. She encourages anyone who has ideas, questions or concerns to contact her.

"I've supported the mission of the Astoria Warming Center since it opened, and have watched it grow into an organization that I'm proud to be a part of," Barnes said in an email. "I'm so grateful to the tireless work of the volunteers, staff, board and many community supporters we'd had over the years, and can't

emphasize enough how vital their work has been to getting us where we are today. Although I wasn't expecting to be offered the position of interim executive director at the AWC so early in my employment, I'm honored to step into the role.

"I appreciate the efforts of Kathleen Sullivan as our first executive director, and realize the incredible difficulty of coming into a new role in a growing organization with evolving leadership. I'll be building upon the work she's done for the warming center and wish her the best in her next endeavor.

"I believe that homelessness can be solved, and I'm excited to be a part of the solution. I'm coming to this role with many ideas about what this could look like here, from long-range plans to immediate actions to serve our community's most vulnerable residents."

Vineside Wine Bar to debut in Seaside

By R.J. MARX
The Astorian

SEASIDE — Wine, family and good vibes. That's the vision of the upcoming Vineside Wine Bar, tucked into a cozy nook in the center of the Gilbert District.

Designed to give guests a "no-nonsense" wine experience, the bar was a long-time dream of owner Delaree Reilly and her two daughters, marketing and wine director Autumn Haile and hospitality director Carissa Dice.

Originally from Newport Beach in Southern California, through visits to the wineries of Temecula, Paso Robles and Sonoma, they learned early on that wine is more than "just a well-crafted beverage — it's an opportunity for community, family, and friends to gather around the table and vibe."



R.J. Marx/The Astorian

Delaree Reilly, Autumn Haile and Carissa Dice of Vineside Wine Bar.

Four years ago, Reilly relocated from California to Portland. She moved to Seaside in September.

Dice worked at Soter Vineyards in Carlton and Deschutes Brewery in Portland since moving from California.

Haile was working in marketing in New York before the pandemic and relocated to Portland in June. "I will be relocating again, hopefully this month, to Seaside," she said.

They initially looked at a vacant space directly on

Broadway, but when the owner of the building suggested they take a look at the former Angi D. Wildt Gallery space in the back, they were hooked. The room gave them the look and feel they were searching for in an intimate setting and even provided space for an outdoor patio.

The menu comes with international wines, craft beers and small bites prepared in-house, including charcuterie plates, cheeses, locally smoked salmon plates and sweet treats of macarons, fruit scones and assorted cookies. Music, comfortable furniture, a welcoming bar and works of local artists on the walls complete the ambiance.

Vineside won its limited on-premises sales license at the City Council on Monday night.

The opening is scheduled for April.

CORRECTION

Incorrect sample size — In mid-January, state sampling of razor clams came back with a composite test result of 140 parts per million, well over the state's threshold of 20 parts per million. An A1 story on Thursday incorrectly described the sample as one razor clam.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

MONDAY

Jewell School District Board, 6 p.m., Jewell School Library, 83874 Highway 103.

Astoria City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

TUESDAY

Clatsop County Board of Commissioners, 10 a.m., work session, (electronic meeting).

Astoria Historic Landmarks Commission, 5:30 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

Seaside Planning Commission, 6 p.m., work session, (electronic meeting).

Lawsuits seek over \$1B from Pacific Power over wildfires

Associated Press

SALEM — Two new lawsuits filed in Marion County seek more than \$1 billion in damages from Pacific Power, claiming the utility's negligence led to wildfires in Santiam Canyon last year.

The two lawsuits filed Wednesday represent over 100 people impacted by the Beachie Creek fire, the Statesman Journal reported.

The two law firms leading the effort, Edelson PC and Johnson Johnson Lucas and Middleton, say Pacific Power, doing business as Pacific Corp., "failed to safely design, operate and maintain its infrastructure leading to the fire."

They also allege that Pacific Corp failed to heed warnings of impending historic high winds and extreme drought conditions.

Pacific Power told the newspaper in a statement that



Bill Breneman/EO Media Group

Lawsuits seeking \$1 billion have been filed against Pacific Power as a result of last year's wildfires.

it does not comment on pending litigation.

It's at least the third lawsuit filed against the utility related to wildfires last September.

Among those named in the lawsuit filed Wednesday are Ute and Rickey Thomas, who lost their home in Lyons,

the law firms said. Rita Perkins lost a home of 60 years in Lyons, along with a boat,

vehicle and woodworking shop, according to the lawsuit.

Darel Bush, Desiree Olsen and Steven Olsen also lost a home in Gates, along with cars, sheds and a tool collection, the lawsuit said.

The lawsuits generally follow the same narrative as previous lawsuits, citing a Pacific Power decision not to shut down power lines when the National Weather Service issued an extremely critical fire warning in advance of Labor Day.

Other utilities, including PG&E and Consumers Power Inc. did shut down power due to the historically high and dry winds.

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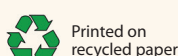
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