

## IN BRIEF

## College resumes in-person instruction after virus cases

Clatsop Community College resumed in-person classes and services on Wednesday.

The college moved to remote learning last week after two employees tested positive for the coronavirus.

The college was informed about a third positive case on Friday and a fourth case on Tuesday.

The fourth case, the college said, was likely exposed to the virus within the last week while off campus. The person has not been on campus since April 9, according to the college.

The college declined to disclose whether the third and fourth cases were employees or students.

“We urge every member of our community to continue vigilant adherence to social distancing and good hygiene habits to allow CCC to serve our students to the best of our ability,” the college said in a statement on Monday. “We must not relax our prevention measures yet as we are still trying to decrease the number of COVID-19 cases in our area and keep the risk low for those who have not yet been able to get vaccinated.”

## City employee tests positive for virus

Astoria on Tuesday reported that a city employee has tested positive for the coronavirus, the first confirmed case at the city.

The city said the employee was present at public works operations, and others who may have had close contact are being notified.

## County to hold Facebook Live session on virus

Clatsop County’s coronavirus vaccine task force will hold a listening session via Facebook Live on Thursday.

Anyone can tune in on the county’s Facebook or Instagram pages at 6:30 p.m. for updates and a question-and-answer session with county public health officials, county commissioners and local doctors.

More details are available online at [bit.ly/3tRGQPq](https://bit.ly/3tRGQPq)

— *The Astorian*

## DEATHS

April 19, 2021

GRONQUIST, Helen Alison, 74, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Caldwell’s Funeral & Cremation Arrangement Center of Seaside is in charge of the arrangements.

HANSEN, Christopher Allen, 82 of Seaside, died in Seaside. Caldwell’s Funeral & Cremation Arrangement Center of Seaside is in charge of the arrangements.

JORGENSEN, Robert Charles, 75, of Warrenton, died in Warrenton. Caldwell’s Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

April 18, 2021

ZAFIRATOS, Nich-

olas D., 94, of River-view, Florida, formerly of Astoria, died in River-view. Caldwell’s Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

April 17, 2021

VOLLMER, Frank Joel, 86, of Warrenton, died in Astoria. Caldwell’s Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

April 16, 2021

FOURNIER, Fay, 79, of Seaside, died in Seaside, Oregon. Caldwell’s Funeral & Cremation Arrangement Center of Seaside is in charge of the arrangements.

## ON THE RECORD

## Rape

Lewis Norman Doyle, 53, of Warrenton, was arrested Tuesday on Oregon Lane in Warrenton for rape in the first degree, kidnapping in the first degree, strangulation, menacing, assault in the fourth degree and unlawful use of a weapon.

## Assault

Vladislav L. Shcheglyuk, 31, of Vancouver, Washington, was arrested Sunday

at Walmart in Warrenton for assaulting a public safety officer, criminal trespass in the first degree, criminal mischief in the first degree, interfering with a peace officer, resisting arrest and criminal mischief in the third degree. Shcheglyuk was reportedly uncooperative and fought police near self-check-out. An officer reportedly deployed his Taser to subdue Shcheglyuk.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

## THURSDAY

Sunset Empire Transportation District Board, 9 a.m., (electronic meeting).

Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce Council, noon, (electronic meeting).

Warrenton Urban Renewal Advisory Committee, 3:30 p.m., special meeting, City Hall, 225 S. Main Ave.

Cannon Beach Planning Commission, 6 p.m., (electronic meeting).

Seaside Budget Committee, 6 p.m., 989 Broadway.

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## Furse advocated for Indigenous rights

The former congresswoman served three terms

By ROB MANNING  
Oregon Public Broadcasting

Elizabeth Furse, a renowned advocate for Indigenous rights and a former member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Oregon, has died. She was 84.

Furse represented the 1st Congressional District, which includes Astoria, from 1993 to 1999 as a progressive Democrat.

She grew up in South Africa, where she joined her mother in advocating for the abolition of apartheid. Before her time in Congress, Furse founded and ran the Oregon Peace Institute, and as a member of Congress, she worked to limit the proliferation and research of nuclear weapons.

Furse also became an outspoken advocate for the rights of Indigenous people in the Northwest, starting, as her widower John Platt described it, more than two decades before her first run for Congress.

“Elizabeth was deeply involved in the Puget Sound treaty fishing rights issues beginning in 1970,” Platt said in an email to reporters, also recalling her support for efforts for tribal recognition from Seattle to the California border.

On the North Coast, Furse helped secure money to build Clatsop Community College’s Marine and Environmental Research and Training Station, a vocational campus at South Tongue Point.

After Congress, she worked with the Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes and other tribes west of the Cascade Mountains whose federal recognition had been terminated by the Western Oregon Indian Termination Act in 1954.

“When many of us think of Elizabeth, we think of the word ‘justice,’” said Dick Basch, the vice chairman of the tribal council. “... That



Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes  
Former congresswoman Elizabeth Furse met with Joe Scovell, the late hereditary chief of the Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes.

was prime for her, was that people, events, politics all fall under the umbrella of justice. That was so important for her.

“That’s Elizabeth and what she meant to many tribes, and of course the Warm Springs and Siletz and Grand Ronde and Klamath and other tribes who had been terminated by the congressional act in the early ‘50s,” he said. “She was really instrumental in working with the Oregon tribes to get them restored.”

Brett VandenHeuvel, the executive director of Columbia Riverkeeper, said Furse was a founding board member of the environmental group on Earth Day 21 years ago.

“We have a position called ‘riverkeeper,’” he said. “It’s like a staff position. She was the founding, the original Columbia riverkeeper. She cared deeply about the environment,” he said.

“She worked to support tribal nations, and part of the impetus for Columbia Riverkeeper was an organization dedicated to the whole Columbia that would work in solidarity with tribes. That was really important to her.”

Platt told Oregon Public Broadcasting that Furse always considered herself more of an activist than a politician.

“She was first and foremost an activist — a person who decides that one person can really make a difference. And she often said that: that one person can make a difference in seeking justice,” he said. “That was her motto.

She lived it. And hopefully others will, too.”

Furse ran briefly for the U.S. Senate in 1995, after Sen. Bob Packwood, an Oregon Republican, resigned amid a sexual harassment scandal. The Democratic primary was eventually won by Ron Wyden, who has held the seat since.

“Former Rep. Elizabeth Furse lived the Jewish concept of tikkun olam with every fiber of her being, repairing the world to help tribal communities, strengthen women’s health care and support vulnerable Americans everywhere,” Wyden said in a written statement. “I’ll miss her tremendously.”

While Furse’s roots were in activism, she wasn’t particularly partisan. She had the support of Sen. Mark Hatfield, an Oregon Republican, in her congressional runs. She later endured the wrath of some in her own party when she backed Hatfield’s GOP successor, U.S. Sen. Gordon Smith.

As an elected representative, Furse worked for the reproductive rights of women and helped win money for the TriMet westside light rail line to Hillsboro. She worked to support Native American sovereignty and Indigenous rights throughout her years in Congress and continued that focus after she left.

Furse’s work on behalf of Oregon tribes made her a lifelong friend and ally of Native American leaders, such as Delores Pigsley, the tribal chair of the Confederated

Tribes of the Siletz Indians.

“Her knowledge, understanding, commitment to her beliefs as well as ours was truly remarkable,” Pigsley said in an email to Oregon Public Broadcasting. “Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family, we will miss her.”

Furse founded the Institute for Tribal Government at Portland State University in 2000, as a way to support Indigenous leaders in self-governance and improve their work with local, state and federal entities.

Leaders at Portland State say the institute’s work will continue.

“The legacy of her work on tribal governance, restoration legislation and self-determination has been profound and will continue to be realized by generations of Native Americans and Oregonians to come,” said Dorelle Calica, the institute’s director. “Her vision for the Institute for Tribal Government has supported the vital efforts of tribal governments and expanded collaboration with federal, state and industry partners.”

People familiar with the institute say that Furse’s involvement varied over the years depending on her health, but that her support of its mission never wavered.

“In fact, I talked to her just a few weeks ago about an upcoming board meeting and her desire to help us with the institute,” Birol Yesilada, head of Portland State’s Hatfield School of Government, said.

Furse and Platt have run a vineyard in Washington County since the early 1980s. Furse was also involved in recent land use issues, including farmland protection, and she briefly returned to politics in 2014, with an unsuccessful run for Washington County commissioner.

Platt said the family is still working on plans for a possible memorial, which they expect to occur this summer.

*Edward Stratton of The Astorian contributed to this report.*

## Hotel: City denies permit extension

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Public backlash against the project led the City Council to amend city code created through the Riverfront Vision Plan guiding development along the water. New development rules shrunk building heights and masses along the river to protect views.

Hollander made little progress, despite a growing sentiment and new rules against projects like his hotel. He applied for a one-year extension in April 2020, shortly after the beginning of a pandemic he argued made hotel financing impossible.

City staff denied his request, noting the lack of progress compared to similar projects, such as the Bowline Hotel under construction near Buoy Beer Co. and a Hilton Home2 Suites planned near the New Youngs Bay Bridge.

The City Council affirmed city staff’s denial, which Hollander appealed to the state Land Use Board of Appeals. The appeals board sent the issue back to the city for further review.

Without a permit extension, the project would fall under the more restrictive development rules.

‘AS A DEVELOPER, I HAVE TO TAKE A PAUSE. I HAVE TO THINK ABOUT, ‘LET’S LET THE SMOKE CLEAR AND SEE WHAT THE CITY’S NEXT MOVE IS IN TERMS OF CHANGING THE GOAL POST ON THE WATERFRONT.’

Mark Hollander | Bellingham, Washington, developer

On Monday, Hollander shared his frustration with the city for changing the rules after his permit approval and creating uncertainty about what he could build.

“As a developer, I have to take a pause,” he said. “I have to think about, ‘Let’s let the smoke clear and see what the city’s next move is in terms of changing the goal post on the waterfront.’”

Hollander and his attorney, Steven Hultberg, have argued that only the poor economic conditions when he applied for a permit extension matter to granting him more time. They submitted evidence from lenders detailing the difficulty in financing projects.

“When the bank says,

‘Look, we’re stopping construction lending, you can’t build,’ Hollander said. “Pretty much all of hotels are built with lending, and are invested in with lending.”

The appeals board asked the city for a deeper explanation as to why it didn’t rely on Hollander’s proof of bad economic conditions. City Attorney Blair Henningsgaard argued Monday that Hollander has never produced any evidence showing he was denied financing.

“If he got a denial letter, was unable to obtain financing, that’d be a simple thing to establish,” Henningsgaard said.

Rosemary Johnson, a planning consultant for the city, laid out evidence of a

healthy hotel market before the pandemic and progress on the other hotels. She said Hollander made no contact with city staff between when his building permits were originally approved and when he asked for an extension.

Mayor Bruce Jones voted as a city councilor in 2018 to approve Hollander’s project based on existing code before the amendments to address public concerns over losing waterfront views. On Monday, Jones said Hollander’s comments about the Riverfront Vision Plan proved that economic conditions weren’t the ultimate reason he made no progress.

“There were a variety of other things happening in the community that caused him to pause moving forward on building the four-story hotel that had already been permitted,” Jones said. “And then the pandemic happened, and that was kind of a good timing to have a reason to ask for the extension.”

The City Council is expected to approve a final order in early May denying the permit extension. Hollander will have three weeks afterward to appeal again to the state.

## Toys: ‘This is a trial period in one park’

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the city is dealing with come from a small number of people.

“It’s just a simple neighborhood park where people

get together and enjoy it, and we’ve not seen a downside to it,” Morley said.

Mayor Bruce Jones, who supported keeping the toys out as long as the number doesn’t grow, said the Friends

group needs to take the lead in dealing with neighborhood concerns instead of city staff.

“Let’s just hope that spring and summer are fine, and everybody is happy,” Jones said. “But I take very seriously Mr. Estes’ note that this consumed a lot of staff time that should have been spent on other, more important things for the city. So if we start getting complaints ... we’re going to tell (the

Friends group), ‘Fix it.’”

If the Friends group can’t stop complaints from consuming staff time, Jones said, then the toys need to be removed. He also warned people against putting private toys out at other parks.

“This is a trial period in one park,” the mayor said. “Suddenly, if we start getting a dozen toys at all the other parks, we’re going to have them removed. At least that would be my vote.”

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