

IN BRIEF

Nighttime closure planned for New Youngs Bay Bridge

The New Youngs Bay Bridge will close at night for two weeks beginning June 6.

The bridge will close from 9 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. Sunday through Friday until June 18. The closure is part of a repair project that began in 2019.

Drivers can use U.S. Highway 101 Business as an alternate route.

Warrenton appoints new Municipal Court judge

WARRENTON — The City Commission has appointed Stacy Rodriguez as judge of the city's Municipal Court.

Rodriguez, an attorney based in Cannon Beach, has been a prosecutor for the court since 2011.

She has also been a judge pro tem at Seaside Municipal Court since 2007.

Rodriguez will assume the role on Tuesday.

— *The Astorian*

Hirsch named Oregon's acting state forester

The Oregon Board of Forestry appointed Nancy Hirsch as the acting state forester Thursday. Hirsch will step into her role overseeing the state Department of Forestry on Tuesday.

Hirsch is coming back to the state Department of Forestry after her 2019 retirement. She has held several leadership roles over her 33 years at the agency. She was the first woman to serve as an incident management team commander from 2008 to 2010. She previously served as acting state forester for five months in 2010 and 2011.

"Given the conversations we've had this week and the vote of confidence here today, I am extremely excited and honored to be back and serve with the strong folks that exist within the department," Hirsch said. "I can feel at ease with the opportunities and the serious work we have in front of us."

Hirsch will replace departing State Forester Peter Daugherty, whose previously-announced resignation is effective Monday. Daugherty faced dueling criticism from environmentalists and the timber industry over conservation and logging levels on state and private forests. His time as agency head was also marked by financial and management problems.

— *Oregon Public Broadcasting*

Twelve Northwest tribes say they are united to save salmon

SPOKANE, Wash. — Some Native American tribes in the Pacific Northwest are criticizing the suggestion they have competing opinions on how best to save endangered salmon runs, saying tribes are united in pursuing the removal of four hydroelectric dams on the Snake River in order to preserve the iconic fish.

A dozen tribes issued a joint press release on Wednesday rejecting the notion that tribes based near Puget Sound might have differing goals than inland tribes.

"Any efforts to divide the Indigenous peoples of this region by suggesting that the Puget Sound tribes don't have the same interests as the Northwest inland tribes have been soundly rejected by tribal leaders," Nez Perce Tribe Chairman Samuel Penney said in the release. "We are all salmon people."

The dozen tribes are united behind a controversial proposal by U.S. Rep. Mike Simpson, an Idaho Republican, to spend some \$33 billion on efforts to save salmon that include breaching the four dams.

— *Associated Press*

DEATHS

May 27, 2021
BARROWS, Virginia Marie, 97, of Astoria, died in Astoria. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

May 26, 2021
HAGERT, Shirley Ann, 86, of Astoria, died in Astoria. Ocean View Cremation & Funeral Service of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

ON THE RECORD

Assault
 • Shayna Marie Driskill-Kieling, 29, of Astoria, was arrested Wednesday at Ninth and Astor streets in Astoria for assault in the fourth degree.

DUII
 • William Edward Thompson, 35, of Seaside, was arrested

Wednesday on the onramp of the Astoria Bridge for driving under the influence of intoxicants.

• Brad D. Cruce, 50, of Vancouver, Washington, was arrested Tuesday on 11th and Commercial streets in Astoria for DUII.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

TUESDAY

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

Astoria Library Board, 5:30 p.m., 450 10th St.

the Astorian

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CANOE FRISBEE

Annamarie Lilley, left, and Frances Taggart play canoe frisbee tag at the Warrenton Grade School outdoor program at Camp Kiwanilong on Wednesday. Students used their canoeing skills to paddle around the lake and toss frisbees into other canoes.

Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

Former YMCA, restored bungalow win historic preservation awards

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Astorian

Over the past several years, Noel Weber Jr., his wife, Wytske van Keulen, and their family have transformed the faded, mostly vacant shell of the former YMCA in Astoria into a community hub anchored by Gathered Bakeshop & Market and Shift + Wheeler, a clothing and accessory company.

Weber Jr. and van Keulen recently joined Astoria Mayor Bruce Jones at a City Council meeting to receive the Dr. Edward Harvey Historic Preservation Award for commercial building restoration.

Dan and Sara Hauer, who restored their family's 1921 bungalow on 14th Street after it nearly burned down in 2018, received the residential award.

The Harvey Award, given since 1987, recognizes property owners who complete restorations that exemplify historic attributes and the architectural heritage of Astoria.

Family partnership

Weber Jr. purchased the former YMCA off 12th Street in 2015 from local artist Jim Russell. The family, who run Classic Design Studio, led by their father, Noel Weber Sr., imagined an Astoria expansion of the artistic cooperative they had created in Boise.

Weber Jr. and van Keulen have split their time between Idaho and Astoria, working in spurts with family and friends to renovate the building using historic blueprints and photos from the Clatsop County Historical Society.

They had stopped coming to Astoria for six months at the onset of the coronavirus pandemic. But by then, the family had already transformed the building from a faded purple to a fresh coat of gray-and-black and prepared two storefronts for Gathered and Shift + Wheeler.

Most of their work since has been on the upstairs, a



Edward Stratton/The Astorian

Sara and Dan Hauer received a Dr. Edward Harvey Historic Preservation Award for the restoration of a 1921 bungalow damaged by an electrical fire in 2018.

former dormitory where the family has a live-work studio, and the artists' cooperative they're creating in the former gym and basement.

"We were ... reviewing the year, the people here, and I guess it's just exciting how everyone works on their own skill in such a thoughtful way," van Keulen said. "And I feel like — especially with the pandemic — I think it has been empowering for everyone."

The restoration also earned the family an Oregon Heritage Excellence Award in October.

Katie Henry, the coordinator of the Oregon Heritage Commission, said the YMCA came on the agency's radar after receiving a grant several years ago to help restore the building's facade.

"This is an incredibly hard process, because all of the nominations are exceptional," she said. "But part of what we sit there and think about is, 'Does this go above and beyond?'"

A restoration born of fire

Three generations of Hauer's have owned the red bunga-

low on 14th Street. The house was originally designed by famed Astoria architect John E. Wicks and built in 1921 as an example of how electricity could be incorporated into a historic home.

Dan Hauer's grandparents purchased the house in the 1950s. "It was the most wired home in the Northwest," he said. "They brought down people from Portland and Seattle to see it."

In 2018, the wiring to a basement outlet under the center of the dining room floor failed, igniting a fire that soon spread throughout the walls of the home. Sara Hauer said one of her sons first noticed the smoke coming from the basement.

"I decided to open up the blinds over the dining room, and there was just nothing but flames coming out," she said.

The Hauer's credited the Astoria Fire Department with responding within minutes, saving the home from

destruction. An insurance adjuster recommended gutting the house to the studs. But before crews began ripping the historic wood floors and cast-plaster walls, the Hauer's reached out to Rick-enbach Construction and began the process of historically re-creating the house's details.

The Hauer's and their children spent two years living in rentals while crews made the house structurally stable and restored all the original plaster, molding, windows, doors and other features. They didn't move back in until painting was finished last fall.

One of the only vestiges of the fire is a small, black burn mark on the quarter-sawn oak flooring in the dining room.

"It's just such a beautiful home," Dan Hauer said. "And the great thing after all this is that it still just feels like the same home ... And now with our kids here, that's the fourth generation growing up in this house."



COMMUNITY NEWS

All Aboard for Astoria Citywide VBS

June 21-25 | 9:00 a.m. - NOON

Ages 3 years old to 5th grade

Event Place: 565 12th Street

Peace First Lutheran Downtown

Register at www.peacefirstlutheran.com

PLEASE REGISTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
 Due to the COVID-19 restrictions there is a cap of 48 kids, or four groups of 12 per group. There will be no onsite registrations this year. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Volunteer Pick of the Week

Arly,

7 year old male Tabby

Come meet this eligible and handsome fellow. He's a little bashful, but also a big softie.

(Read about the pet of the week on Facebook)

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