

## IN BRIEF

## Westport man dies in Highway 30 crash

A Westport man died early Monday morning in a two-vehicle crash on U.S. Highway 30 about 10 miles east of Astoria.

Police say Joshua Johns, 36, was heading eastbound when he crossed into the westbound lane and collided into another vehicle.

Johns sustained fatal injuries and was pronounced dead at Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria. Johns' passenger, as well as the driver and passenger of the other vehicle, were taken to Columbia Memorial for injuries.

The highway was closed while law enforcement investigated and reconstructed the crash, which was reported at about 12:50 a.m.

## New chairman selected for Seaside school board

SEASIDE — Brian Taylor was named the new chairman at a special meeting of the Seaside School District Board of Directors on Thursday.

Taylor, who served as the board's vice chairman, has represented Cannon Beach's Zone 2, Position 2 seat since 2013. Taylor is co-owner of Bruce's Candy Kitchen in Cannon Beach.

He replaces Mark Truax, whose term on the board representing Zone 4, Position 2 in Gearhart runs until 2023.

"I just want to say real quick thanks everybody for all the assistance they gave me for the last 2 1/2 years," Truax said.

Michelle Wunderlich was named vice chairman for the board. Wunderlich, owner of the Seaside Coffee House, represents the at-large Zone 7, Position 1 board seat. She won election to the board in 2017 and was reelected this year.

The Zone 3, Position 1 seat remains vacant after the winner of the May election, A.J. Wahl, stepped down to assume a judge position. People wishing to be considered for appointment to the seat have until the end of July to apply.

— *The Astorian*

## Union workers at Fred Meyer vote to authorize strike

Fred Meyer warehouse workers have voted unanimously to authorize a strike, which could disrupt food distribution at 180 locations across the Pacific Northwest.

KOIN reported that contract negotiations between Teamsters Local 117 and Fred Meyer have been underway with little progress. Union officials say Fred Meyer rejected a proposal to allow workers to refuse a task that would put themselves or the public in danger.

The strike authorization vote was on Saturday.

Teamsters Local 117 represents roughly 500 warehouse workers with Fred Meyer, servicing stores in Washington, Oregon, Alaska and Idaho.

Fred Meyer officials told KOIN they plan to continue negotiations.

— *Associated Press*

## DEATHS

July 17, 2021

**KLAFFKE, Richard**, 78, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

**PARKER, Scott**, 72, of Astoria, died in Seaside. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

## ON THE RECORD

## Criminal mischief

• Neil Lincoln Fisk, 51, of Gearhart, was arraigned Monday on charges of criminal mischief in the first degree, menacing and recklessly endangering another person.

## Theft

• Debra Lee Reed, 52, of Astoria, was arrested Friday at Walmart in Warrenton for theft in the second degree.

## DUII

• Lavon Lee Sargent, 51, of Astoria, was arrested Friday on U.S. Highway 30 for driving under the influence of intoxicants, reckless driving and driving while suspended.

## Driving while suspended

• Joseph Efraim Stilleck, 29, of Warrenton, was arrested on Friday for criminal driving while suspended.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

## TUESDAY

**Clatsop County Board of Commissioners and Planning Commission**, 10 a.m., work session, (electronic meeting).  
**Astoria Historic Landmarks Commission**, 5:30 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

## WEDNESDAY

**Astoria City Council**, 1 p.m., work session, City Hall, 1095 Duane St.  
**Seaside Tourism Advisory Committee**, 3 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.

## THURSDAY

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

## the Astorian

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## LIVING HISTORY

Luke Whittaker/Chinook Observer

DeWayne Pritchett portrayed U.S. Army Pvt. John Collins as the Pacific Northwest Living Historians interpreted the Lewis and Clark Expedition in Knappton this month.

## Family of drowned Tacoma man appeals for financial help

## Man's son needs special care

By PATRICK WEBB  
*Chinook Observer*

LONG BEACH, Wash. — A campaign is underway to help the family of the Tacoma man who drowned near Beards Hollow in June.

Family friend Andy Anderson is asking people contribute to a \$12,000 campaign to aid the family of Mark Bishop. An appeal with family photos listing details of expenses has been set up online at GoFundMe.

Bishop, 44, and his 21-year-old son, Billy, were vacationing on the Long Beach Peninsula with Mark's girlfriend and her children in late June. Reports were that they were trying to make their way along the side of the main fishing rock when they got into difficulties.

Mark Bishop was pulled from the ocean by beachgoers who attempted to revive him.

Pacific County Fire District No. 1 personnel took him to Ocean Beach Hospital in Ilwaco. Family members



Mark Bishop, of Tacoma, with his son, Billy.

said he was flown by helicopter to a Portland hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Billy Bishop is a disabled and autistic adult who requires legal guardianship, his older brother, Jeremy, notes on the website. He and his partner, JJ Knapp, have committed to provide a home for him with them in Minneapolis, but seek funds to help provide specialized equip-

ment needed to cope with his disability, including sensory soothing items.

"They want to get him back and settled with the least amount of grief," Anderson said.

The couple face a gap in state disability financial aid with the transfer from Washington to Minnesota. Both have lost income while making the arrangements and must pay to ship

Billy's belongings.

"As a young homeowner I need to make some modifications and updates to our century-old home in the lower-income neighborhood of north Minneapolis for basic safety and Billy's accessibility," Jeremy Bishop noted. One update is replacing the 1920s newspapers previously used as insulation for the second-floor room where Billy will sleep.

Billy Bishop grew up in Washington and recently graduated from high school. He worked at a Walgreen's drugstore.

"Helping Billy recover in a safe and loving environment so he can live his happiest life will mean so much to our budding little family," his brother noted.

Mark Bishop is survived by his parents, three sisters and seven children. A funeral was held in Lakewood last week.

Jeremy Bishop noted that their father had died helping others. "Thankfully, his heart, liver, kidneys and eye tissue were all viable for donation, and he was able to save even more lives," he noted. "My dad truly died a hero."

## Lawsuit seeks more spill over dams for salmon

By NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS  
*Associated Press*

SPOKANE, Wash. — The record-shattering heat wave in the Pacific Northwest prompted fishing and conservation groups to ask a federal court to order more spill from dams on the lower Snake and Columbia rivers next spring, which could aid the migration of endangered salmon and steelhead runs.

Earthjustice, on behalf of a coalition of fishing and conservation groups, asked a federal court in Portland on Friday for more water to be released to help the fish navigate a series of dams in the river basins. Increasing the amount of water helps flush young fish along their river migration to reach the ocean where they mature.

But increasing spill also means that water is not available later to generate power.

The groups are also seeking lowered reservoir levels, which are routinely too hot, to help speed fish migration.

"Right now we're back in court asking for another stop-gap measure to slow the trend toward extinction of these fish," Earthjustice attorney Todd True said.

The Columbia River basin was once the greatest salmon-producing river system in the world. But all remaining salmon on the Snake River, its largest tributary, now face extinction. Four dams in eastern Wash-



Ted S. Warren/AP Photo

The Lower Granite Dam on the Snake River is seen from the air near Colfax.

ington state — Ice Harbor, Little Goose, Lower Monumental and Lower Granite — slow passage along the lower Snake River, a major migration corridor linking pristine cold-water streams in central Idaho to the Columbia River and out to the Pacific Ocean.

The dams plus rising water temperatures in the reservoirs make the passage increasingly deadly, conservation groups contend. Many are calling for the four dams to be breached.

In 2015, some of the earliest and hottest weather on record produced warm river temperatures that killed more than 90% of all adult sockeye salmon returning to the basin, conservation groups said. State agencies have since had to limit or cancel fishing seasons to protect the dwindling population. This summer could be a disaster for Snake River salmon with

its record-breaking heat, the groups said.

Climate change has made the West much warmer and drier in the past 30 years, and scientists have long warned that the weather will get wilder as the world warms. Special calculations are needed to determine how much global warming is to blame, if at all, for a single extreme weather event.

The litigation challenges the most recent plan for dam operations issued by the Trump administration in late 2020. That plan called for the same operations the courts have consistently rejected for more than two decades.

Numerous groups that use the river system have opposed breaching the four dams, along with mostly Republican politicians in the region who argue the dams provide many benefits, such as electricity to power air

conditioners during the heat wave.

Kurt Miller, the executive director of Northwest RiverPartners, which opposes breaching, said the injunction is poorly timed.

"At a time when the Pacific Northwest is emerging from the pandemic, experiencing historic heat that has led to drought, wildfires and significant loss of life, and is faced with rampant homelessness, it is difficult to imagine a group filing a motion that will greatly increase the electricity costs for millions of residents, decrease our clean energy generation and double the risk of regional blackouts," he said.

The request for a preliminary injunction allowing more spill lists the National Marine Fisheries Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation as defendants.