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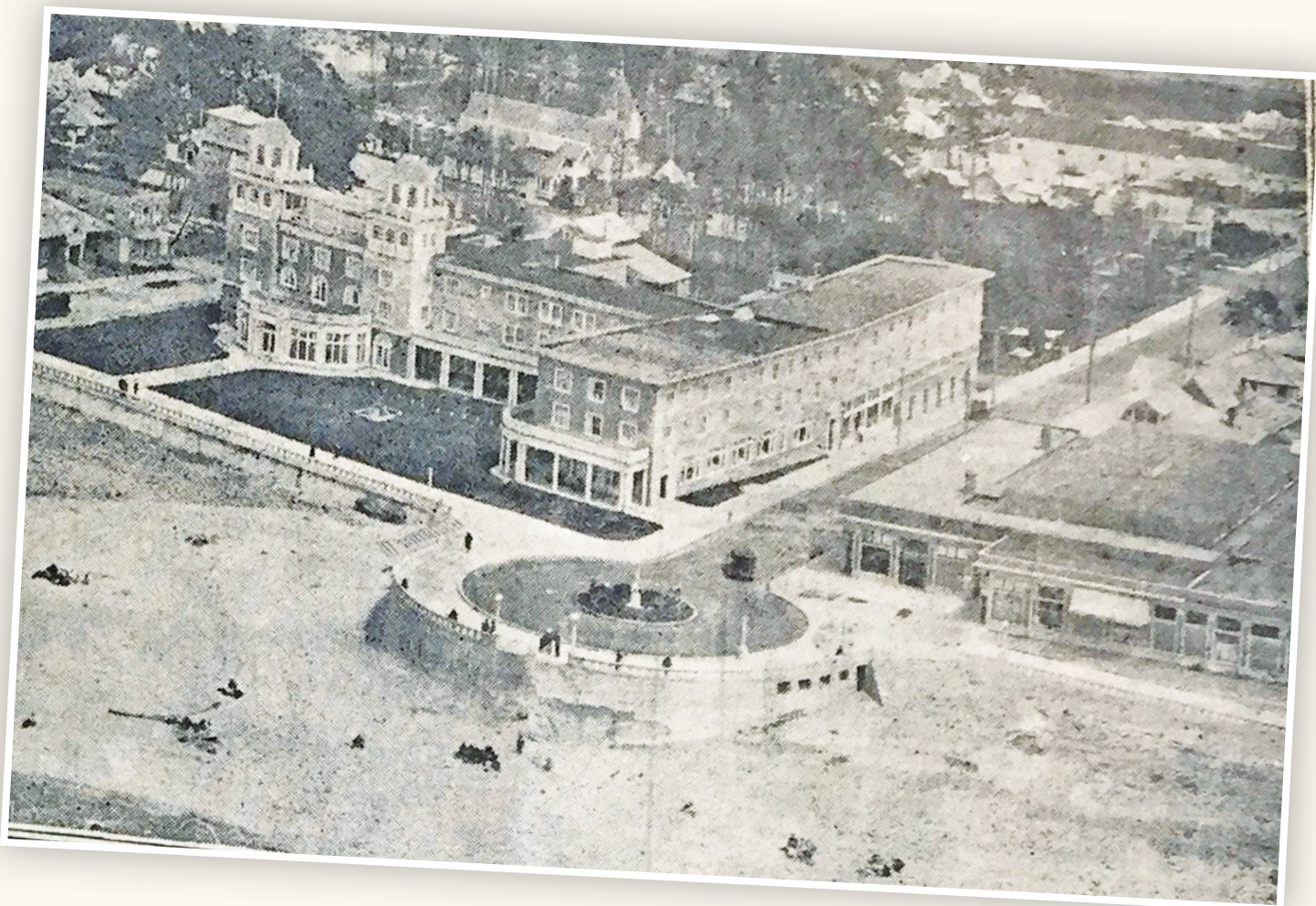
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\$1.50

SEASIDE

THE PROM TURNS 100



Seaside Signal

City to host centennial celebration

By GRIFFIN REILLY
The Astorian

SEASIDE — In 1921, hundreds of Oregonians gathered to open the Promenade, a 1.5-mile boardwalk that would become a staple of the North Coast. The mayor hoped the future would bring hundreds, if not thousands, of visitors.

A hundred years later, that vision is reality.

Coming amid a cautious recovery from the coronavirus pandemic, the Aug. 7 celebration honoring the centennial anniversary will serve as an opportunity for locals to showcase their pride in what has become one of the most popular tourism destinations on the coast.

"It's the most important thing to the town," said Laurie Mespelt, the executive director of the Sea-

side Downtown Development Association. "That is who we are, that Turnaround and the Promenade — it's who we are and it's what brings people here."

The Seaside Visitors Bureau has been promoting the anniversary throughout the year. Of the \$400,000 budget the city receives to promote

ABOVE: An aerial view of the Prom in 1921.

BELOW: The Promenade was dedicated in Seaside on Aug. 7, 1921.

Seaside Museum & Historical Society

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Retired Warrenton police dog marks shift

K-9s less useful after drugs decriminalized

By ETHAN MYERS
The Astorian

WARRENTON — His drug-sniffing days are over.

"Gabe," a 7-year-old German shepherd, was honored with cake and balloons during a City Commission meeting this month for his four years of service with the Warrenton Police Department.

Working alongside Officer Robert Wirt, the police dog is credited for helping to locate narcotics, including heroin, methamphetamine, cocaine and fentanyl. He also used his drug-detection skills to help other law enforcement agencies on the North Coast with searches.

"He was really gentle-natured," Wirt said. "That was one of the qualities we were looking for, so we were able to use him in the schools as a PR tool also."

Gabe's farewell follows the retirement of many drug-sniffing police dogs across the country due to laws that legalized or decriminalized drugs.

As the Associated Press reported in May, many police dogs are trained to detect multiple drugs and provide an alert, but do not distinguish between legal and illegal drugs. The dogs also cannot distinguish between legal and illegal amounts of drugs, the AP reported, which makes it difficult to use the dogs to establish probable cause for searches.

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County fair returns after pandemic disruption

By KATHERINE LACAZE
For The Astorian

Despite challenges like a labor shortage and an expedited scheduling process, the Clatsop County Fair will open Tuesday, and after missing last year because of the coronavirus pandemic, "Everybody's been pretty excited," operations manager John Lewis said.

As in years past, the fair — which runs daily through Saturday — will feature beloved traditions: the opening-day hog roast, a diverse array of food vendors, muton bustin', carnival rides and 4-H shows and activities. There also will be a new car show from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

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New Warrenton officer has local roots

Trujillo graduated from Astoria High School

By ETHAN MYERS
The Astorian

WARRENTON — It's an unmistakable look. The smile of a proud father.

When Christina Trujillo was sworn in as a police officer this month during a City Commission meeting, her dad, Luis, did the honors of pinning on her badge.

"Getting up there, (I was) very nervous, but very, very excited," Trujillo said. "Having my dad

EVERYDAY
people

do it was a really happy, exciting moment, I think for both of us."

Trujillo is more than familiar with the city she will now be serving. Her family moved to Clatsop County when she was 2 years old. After graduating from Astoria High School in 2011, she attended Clatsop Community College and eventually received a bachelor's degree in criminology and criminal justice from Portland State University.

"It feels really good," she said. "I am really happy that this is where I get to stay. I didn't want to

leave the area for a career move."

Since Trujillo had no previous law enforcement experience, she was originally hired by the Warrenton Police Department as a reserve officer in May. Two days after completing the process to become a reserve, a sudden resignation from another officer led the department to offer her a full-time position.

"That is why she was going to be a reserve officer — to get her that experience and stuff," Police Chief Mathew Workman said. "But it was a good fit to go ahead and hire her right now and get her trained up."

Trujillo believes her experience has prepared her for being a police officer.



City of Warrenton

Christina Trujillo was sworn in as a Warrenton police officer this month.

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