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Photos by Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

Abigail Barreto, 4, tries out 'mutton busting' while riding a sheep at the Clatsop County Fair on Wednesday.



Owen Lighthiser, 4, plays in the dirt of the outdoor arena.

COUNTY FAIR RETURNS

With amusement rides, competitions, pounds of fried food and live music, the Clatsop County Fair returned this week after being canceled last year because of the coronavirus. See more photos online at [DailyAstorian.com](https://www.dailyastorian.com)



Visitors look at Cole Biamont's pig and piglets in the indoor arena building on Thursday.



From left, Tyler Wright, Kira Zulauf, Savana Dean and Stella Samuelson ride the Vortex at the carnival.



ABOVE: Alivia Rickenbach shows her cow in the Breeding Beef competition. RIGHT: Kids enjoy a pendulum ride from Rainier Amusements on Wednesday night. BELOW: Fairgoers spin on a carnival ride.



State to require masks in schools

Brown's announcement undercuts Astoria vote

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Astorian

Oregon will require students and staff at K-12 schools to mask up against the coronavirus when school starts in September.

Amid concerns about the spread of the delta variant, Gov. Kate Brown directed the Oregon Health Authority and the Oregon Department of Education on Thursday to create a rule to require masks to be worn indoors at schools for the 2021-22 school year.

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New mask guidance greeted with frustration

Advice comes weeks after state lifted restrictions

By GRIFFIN REILLY
The Astorian

WARRENTON — Masked and unmasked shoppers filtered in and out of Fred Meyer on Wednesday past a sign at the entrance that read, "Masks are not required for vaccinated individuals per state and CDC guidelines."

Inside the store, masks were few and far between.

Weeks after Oregon lifted most restrictions to contain the coronavirus — an optimistic signal the pandemic was winding down — public health experts pivoted again, recommending masks indoors in response to the more contagious delta variant.

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CANNON BEACH

Food tax could help with housing

Money could be used for volunteer firefighters

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Astorian

CANNON BEACH — If voters pass a controversial tax on prepared food in November, Fire Chief Marc Reckmann hopes to use some of the money on housing for volunteer firefighters.

Even as the fire district responds to an increasing number of calls, it is losing or in danger of losing volunteers as home prices soar on the coast and rental options are often expensive and scarce, Reckmann told The Astorian.

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