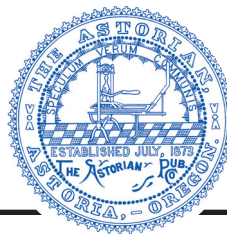


OPINION



the Astorian

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Founded in 1873

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PUBLISHER'S NOTEBOOK

A commitment to news literacy

If you believe, as Thomas Jefferson did, that an informed public is the foundation of democracy, you'll be heartened by the news that all students and staff at Astoria High School now have a digital subscription to The Astorian.

The Newspapers In Education program provides newspapers for students to use in classroom learning. Curriculum guides — found at www.comediagroup.com/nie/ — provide activities to teach using the news for civics, math, writing and history lessons. The program is made possible by funding from Clatsop County businesses who back their commitment to news literacy for students with sponsorship.

This year, The Astorian is able to offer the program in a new format — digital news.

Students and staff using Wi-Fi in the Astoria High School building have full access to the e-edition and digital news from dailyastorian.com. They're able to access local news from their phones, just as 54% of our website users do.

Astoria High School users can sign up for news alerts, use the breaking news app and enjoy the audio, video and puzzle features just as subscribers do. Hopefully, those students will learn about their community, governance and gain a news-reading habit that will inform their decisions now and wherever their future travels take them.

The new group digital subscription is part of The Astorian's community outreach to provide more residents access to local, credible and fact-checked news and information that can keep our community informed. Organizations with 30 employees or more can choose to

offer the digital subscription to their employees, as identified through work location Wi-Fi or company email.

Connecting to locally reported stories about issues, events and the history of Astoria weaves residents into a common fabric that creates our community strength and identity. Digital subscriptions provide access to The Astorian's searchable archives for the last 10 years, providing access to background information, fact-checking and historical context to current events. Or just the chance to find that razor clam recipe from 2015.

Community news literacy is the reason that our organization still exists, distributing news via newspaper, website, app and social media. It's the reason that The Astorian began publishing in 1873. A group of business leaders determined that to grow Astoria into a great town they needed a newspaper — and so recruited DeWitt Clinton Ireland to start one.

Welcome, Astoria High School, to the daily news of your community. Generations of citizens have read the newspaper to inform their decisions and make this a unique place. We trust you'll keep up their good work.

Have a suggestion or idea to share? Contact me at kborgen@dailyastorian.com

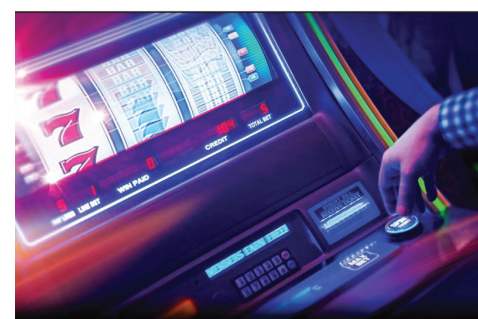
Note: If you are a print subscriber who hasn't created an online account, the online dailyastorian.com news and e-newspaper is included in your subscription price. Our customer service center is full of nice people who can help you with your online registration — call them at 800-781-3214.

Kari Borgen is publisher of The Astorian.

CONNECTING TO LOCALLY REPORTED STORIES ABOUT ISSUES, EVENTS AND THE HISTORY OF ASTORIA WEAVES RESIDENTS INTO A COMMON FABRIC THAT CREATES OUR COMMUNITY STRENGTH AND IDENTITY. DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE ASTORIAN'S SEARCHABLE ARCHIVES FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS, PROVIDING ACCESS TO BACKGROUND INFORMATION, FACT-CHECKING AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT TO CURRENT EVENTS. OR JUST THE CHANCE TO FIND THAT RAZOR CLAM RECIPE FROM 2015.



KARI BORGEN



Seaside steps up

Seagull boys rule the Clatsop Clash, move to Final Four

By GARY HENLEY
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE GIRLS VS. MAZAMA
Late Girls hit a quarterfinal
See Sports, Page 11

PRESS PLAY

Gambling addiction on rise in Clatsop County; few seek treatment

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

Arlene Jewell's gambling addiction started as a hobby. She would play a quick video poker game on hand made when work or before picking up her children at day camp.

But for the Astoria woman, the habit soon became a problem. She had to file for bankruptcy.

Her husband, she lost at least \$20,000.

"The most frustrating part is that it's a daily battle," she said. "Some days I'm better and I don't feel an urge to gamble. Other days, I have to go to the casino to get the anger out of my brain."

Jewell's experience is one in Clatsop County. But her problem gambling, which includes sports betting, is on the rise, but the treatment...

There were 772 problem gamblers...

College gets offer on arts center

Unmanned buyer wants to build affordable housing

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Clatsop Community College has received an offer from an outside investor to build the Performing Arts Center and adjacent Fine Arts Building as part of an affordable housing development.

Grand Executive, the interim president of the college, said the offer would be just what was needed to help support the arts and building for the future.

Kevin Ruppel, the real estate agent representing the investor, declined to comment on the offer, which included a buyout of some existing but declined to comment. He said the investor stated a more affordable housing, including apartment units and other uses, would be possible at the Clatsop Community College site.

Gearhart tackles short-term rental rules

Septic concerns play key role in discussion

By B.J. MARKS
The Daily Astorian

GEARHART — Even as the world whirled and leveled Wednesday night, a full committee of Clatsop County's Board of Planning and Community Development met to discuss short-term rental rules.

It's about the septic. The local officials, however, they received a lesson in septic concerns for short-term rental properties.

See GEARHART, Page 12

Spring Forward



Now logged in on www.dailyastorian.com gives a presentation on septic concerns for short-term rental properties.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Un-words

For reasons that should need no clarification, it's always, and ever, business as usual. I am entranced with the concept of "leisure industry" (The Astorian, Nov. 18).

It is such an Orwellian abstraction! Intoxicating newspeak boomed down and brewed. Switching venues, it's the same as "working forest," a favorite of #TimberUnity, where the most valuable and worthy of trees can be found lying down on the job.

At the least, such lingual jiu-jitsu should be candidates for the Un-word of the Year. In any case, these mind-twist-

ing expressions need to be sent off to the Euphemism Wing of the Oregon State Bureau of Misinformation. I will get right on it.

GARY DURHEIM
Seaside

Gone in an instant

We all enjoy the change of seasons differently. I appreciate winter birds moving in, especially colorful ducks using the area to rest after a long flight, exhausted, needing nourishment.

Some people celebrate their arrival by hunting them. Fees are paid, areas set

aside, even enhanced and protected to be able to shoot them. Using guns is part of the fun. I own a gun, and understand the excitement of firing one. But I admit I enjoy seeing ducks alive.

I am told to go somewhere else, out of the way of hunters. I wonder why I have to go somewhere else, and accept this cruelty, because shooting migrating ducks is fun for some. Yes, birds granted, as if that makes it OK.

Some of us go outside to be restored by observing wildlife living, when lucky enough to see it. Now I hear gunfire in the distance from my home, as ducks scatter, frightened, gone in an instant. Bang ... poof ... gone ... mallards,

pintail, wigeon ... and we're left with nothing, so the fun can go on. Isn't it more fun playing with the grandkids?

LYNNE FARRAR
Astoria

Talk is cheap

U.S. Rep. Earl Blumenauer stated that the feds must do more to prepare for climate disasters (The Astorian, Nov. 18).

Talk is cheap. The feds can only do what Congress directs and funds.

DAVID FEIRING
Front Royal, Virginia