

## State parks land funding for improvements

Money for Fort Stevens, Nehalem Bay

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ  
The Astorian

State parks on the North Coast are getting an upgrade.

The Oregon State Parks and Recreation Commission has approved an initial list of capital improvement projects that could funnel as much as \$19 million to projects at Fort Stevens State Park and Nehalem Bay State Park.

The money comes after the state Legislature this year approved \$50 million in general obligation bonds to fund state park facility improvements.

Funds will not be released until next year and some plans could be subject to change or adjustment, cautioned Justin Parker, the parks department's North Coast district manager. But the money could arrive at an important time as visitation to the coast continues to soar and the tourist season is no longer confined

to just the summer months.

"In a lot of cases, there are parts of the parks that are overdue for maintenance," Parker said, adding, "We're trying to prepare the parks for the next 100 years."

Park managers at Fort Stevens could expect to see up to \$3 million to rehabilitate a rare historic military guardhouse and as much as \$8 million to address aging utilities.

Staff plan to relocate a restroom and shower facility at the Peter Iredale shipwreck day-use area that dates from the 1950s. The restroom, which sits on top of a dune, is near the end of its useable life, difficult to maintain and actively sinking into the sand, Parker said. A new restroom will be built farther east and off of the dune.

The park also plans to upgrade four campground loops with improvements to electrical, water and wastewater utilities.

Money could flow to Nehalem Bay State Park beginning in 2023, though that funding is not certain.

See State parks, Page A3



West Coast Seafood Processors Association

A fish fillet is cut in Astoria. The seafood industry today uses just 30% to 40% of what it harvests for human consumption, while the rest is either made into fishmeal or discarded in landfills.

## Researchers aim to turn seafood byproducts into source of nutrition

A multiyear project at Oregon State's Seafood Research and Education Center

By GEORGE PLAVEN  
Capital Press

A research project led by Oregon State University has the potential to reduce food waste by utilizing seafood byproducts as a cheap, high-quality source of protein. Oregon State has received a

\$333,777 grant from the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research to study whether protein from byproducts such as fish heads, bones and skin left over after processing can be recovered and used as an ingredient in food or dietary supplements. The seafood industry uses just

30% to 40% of what it harvests

for human consumption, while the rest is either made into fishmeal or discarded in landfills.

"This research exemplifies a 'no stone unturned' approach to increasing global food and nutritional security through limiting food waste," said Lucyna Kurtyka, the senior scientific program director with the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research.

See Seafood, Page A2



Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

State bond money could help finance improvement projects at Fort Stevens State Park.

## Bowler is a full-time volunteer

'Honorary Norwegian' spins music for KMUN

By GARY HENLEY  
The Astorian

Two years without an Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival? Forgive the Scandinavian residents on the North Coast if they're experiencing any lfe and rice pudding withdrawal symptoms.



Festival organizers managed to stage a drive-by Midsummer Optog parade as opposed to the normal parade and a festival court was selected for 2020 and 2021.

But what about the ever-popular music that comes with the festival? Well, that's where Lloyd Bowler comes in.

Bowler co-hosts the "Scandinavian Hour" and "Celtic Aire" every other Saturday — spinning three straight hours of Scandinavian and Celtic music beginning at 2 p.m. for two of the more popular shows on KMUN, Astoria's public radio station.

Bowler and his wife, Janet,



Janet Lien Bowler

Lloyd Bowler, recording a radio show for KMUN.

also answer the call whenever and wherever volunteers are needed.

In addition to the hours he gives to KMUN, Bowler has worked for the Old Barn Society and volunteers at the Columbia River Maritime Museum and most things Scandinavian.

"I like to think I help out here and there," said Bowler, who retired after spending 30 years as a special education teacher for the Knappa School District. "Since I'm retired, I like to do other vol-

unteer stuff around town."

The couple, who have been married almost 40 years, has joined the Finnish Brotherhood. Janet Bowler is involved with the Cultural Coalition, serves as the entertainment director for the Scandinavian Festival, plays flute in local music groups and is one of the chief fundraisers for the Astoria Nordic Heritage Park project off Marine Drive downtown.

See Bowler, Page A2

### SEASIDE

## Park district finds role in homeless services

New shelter set to open this week

By R.J. MARX  
The Astorian

SEASIDE — In December, a 15-bed low-barrier shelter opens on S. Roosevelt Drive, a combined project between Helping Hands Reentry Outreach Centers, the city, Clatsop Community Action and the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District.

Skyler Archibald, the executive director of the park district, said the goal is to provide a solution for the homeless population, especially during the cold and wet months.

"The district's position is that this is a good thing for lots of different reasons," he said at a board meeting last week. "And I'm really happy that they found a great location for it."

Last winter, a warming center proposed at the former Broad-

way Middle School — now the Sunset Recreation Center — was rejected by the board.

"It was challenging because I think we all wanted to support this opportunity or support this movement," he said. "Given the status of the SRC and of the locker room space, we weren't really comfortable with that as a good fit right now."

With the approach of another winter, a shelter remained a priority. Archibald said there are over 500 homeless people in the community, and possibly a "significant amount more."

"It's hard to know this time of year exactly how many there are because of the transient nature of that lifestyle, unfortunately, so I know that the need will likely exceed what we have available," he said.

The warming center, which will open in winter months during inclement weather, is fully

See Homeless, Page A2

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Skyler Archibald | executive director of the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District

