

## IN BRIEF

**Seaside student faces discipline after bomb threat**

SEASIDE — A Seaside Middle School student made a bomb threat on social media on Sunday, police said.

The threat was reported by another student, who saw the message during an Instagram Live session, school administrators said in a letter to the community.

“After interviewing the student and their parent in person we have determined that this is not a credible threat,” administrators said.

Classes operated as normal on Monday.

Cpl. Justin Gagnon, the student resource officer, made contact with Instagram and was able to retrieve critical information establishing the account was created using a local phone number, administrators said.

That information allowed administrators and police to confirm that a middle school student made the threat during the Instagram Live session.

The incident came days after a similar threat on social media led to the cancellation of classes in the Seaside School District. Police determined that it was not a credible, localized threat.

The student involved with the second threat could face criminal charges and disciplinary action from the school.

— *The Astorian*

**Conservation group sues Army Corps over Columbia River pollution**

A conservation group is suing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, saying the agency is polluting the Columbia River with hot water, oil and toxic chemicals that are killing large numbers of endangered salmon.

Columbia Riverkeeper filed the lawsuit Wednesday in federal courts in both eastern Washington state and Oregon.

The lawsuit contends four dams operated by the Army Corps on the Columbia River between Portland and the Tri-Cities of Richland, Pasco and Kennewick in Washington discharge illegal pollution in violation of the Clean Water Act.

The dams make the water too hot for endangered salmon and steelhead to survive, the lawsuit said.

The lawsuit contends the Army Corps failed to obtain permits that would place regulatory limits on its discharges of heated water, grease and oil from the dams. The Clean Water Act prohibits discharges of pollutants in federal waters unless permitted.

“Salmon are dying because the water is too hot. It’s past time for the Army Corps to reduce illegal heat pollution from dams,” said Brett VandenHeuvel, the executive director of Columbia Riverkeeper. “No one is above the law.”

— *Associated Press*

**Green hydrogen production could benefit from Oregon State research**

Researchers at Oregon State University say they have developed a breakthrough that could make hydrogen energy more affordable.

Hydrogen has for years been in the clean energy conversation, along with solar panels, electric vehicles and wind turbines. One of hydrogen’s big advantages is that it can store carbon-free energy for when it’s needed the most.

But clean hydrogen has yet to take off, in part because of its high production costs — a barrier that Oregon State’s new research has the potential to help overcome.

The research uses a catalyst — a substance that increases the rate of a chemical reaction without changing itself permanently — to make green hydrogen production more affordable and accessible, said Zhenxing Feng, a chemical engineering professor at Oregon State who led the research.

“We actually improved its efficiency by almost 1,000 times better than commercial standards,” said Feng, who is with the faculty of Oregon State’s College of Engineering.

— *Oregon Public Broadcasting*

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

## TUESDAY

**Clatsop County Planning Commission**, 10 a.m., (electronic meeting).

**Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District Board**, 4 p.m., workshop, Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside.

**Cannon Beach City Council**, 6 p.m., work session, (electronic meeting).

**Lewis & Clark Fire Department Board**, 6 p.m., main fire station, 34571 U.S. Highway 101 Business.

**Warrenton City Commission**, 6 p.m., City Hall, 225 S. Main Ave.

**Seaside School District Board**, 6 p.m., (electronic meeting).

**Clatsop Community College Board**, 6:30 p.m., (electronic meeting).

## WEDNESDAY

**Clatsop County Board of Commissioners**, 10 a.m., work session, (electronic meeting).

**Astoria City Council**, 1 p.m., work session, City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

**Seaside Tourism Advisory Committee**, 3 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.

**Seaside Library Board of Directors**, 4:30 p.m., 1131 Broadway St.

## THURSDAY

**Cannon Beach Design Review Board**, 6 p.m., (electronic meeting).

**Seaside Transportation Advisory Commission**, 6 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.

## PLUVIUS SNOW



Jeff Clemens/Chinook Observer

Pluvius — in the Willapa Hills near the Pacific-Lewis county line — had about 4 inches of snow on the ground at midday Thursday.

## Store: A ‘showcase’ for Astoria

*Continued from Page A1*

“I’m trying to breathe some life down here,” he said.

Crowchild, a member of the Nlaka’pamux Nation — a Native American tribe from British Columbia — has been thrifting for over 2 1/2 decades. He started his entrepreneurship selling items online, but began participating in Portland markets the past couple of years, where he developed a number of connections with the thrifting community.

Those connections eventually brought him to Astoria, where he reached out to William Hicks — the owner of the building — with interest in open-

ing a more permanent location.

Rain Town features items from nearly 30 different vendors. Many are local, while some have ventured from Portland to sell their products.

Crowchild is well aware of the countless number of thrift and vintage-style shops in the area. He believes his will stand out.

“I’m looking for this to be the working person’s vintage store,” he said. “You don’t have to come here and buy a \$100 shirt. We have \$10 shirts.”

He plans to keep rent low for vendors, so, in turn, they can keep prices low for customers.

Rain Town features a variety of vintage products: clothing, records, jewelry, furniture, audio equipment,

antiques and more. The older the better, Crowchild said. Some products are nearly a hundred years old.

Crowchild despises fast fashion — a term referring to cheap and trendy clothing that samples ideas from celebrity culture.

A focus of Rain Town, he said, is recycling and avoiding wasteful habits.

“You don’t think about it when you are buying a \$5 shirt — ‘Oh, that’s cheap.’ But that is going to break down in a couple washes and you’re going to throw it away,” he said. “When this stuff — some of it is from the ‘20s — we keep recycling it and giving it new life. I am really, really passionate about that and I think it is important.”

Just a few days after opening the shop, Crow-

child hosted a clothing-and-cash drive for his vendors.

The clothes were donated to the Astoria Warming Center, while the money was donated to the Chinook Indian Nation.

Since opening, Crowchild has heard from several customers eager to support a Native American businessman.

To pay homage to the region’s native history, Crowchild is working with the Chinook Indian Nation to get local art set up. He looks forward to selling those items, in addition to other items acknowledging Astoria’s rich history.

“There are a lot of things that Astoria has to show, and I just want to be a showcase for all those things,” he said.

## Mentors: Group collaborates with other agencies

*Continued from Page A1*

part about what they hear from us is that our services are free, that they don’t have to spend any money, they don’t have to do any paperwork.”

Staff member Jessica Moon will be handling cases in the region, and she recently placed their first local client with a job at a health care facility. She is focusing on sharing information with employers about hiring people with disabilities.

Norbury said the group hopes to combat the stigma around disability and to educate employers. Their clients include veterans, people with mental health challenges and those with physical and cognitive disabilities.

“I think that (vocational rehabilitation) is just not as well known, and anybody can apply to VR,” Norbury said. “Even if you don’t

think you have a disability, if you’re seeking employment and you are finding it difficult, there’s a challenge

ment of Human Services, Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare, WorkSource Oregon and the Youth Transi-

tion Program. They are also open to private clients.

“It’s a group effort, all

the agencies want to work together. They want to work with agencies like ours, they want to work with VR.

But it’s not really built into the fabric of this thing to talk to each other,” Norbury said.

She said she is seeing more collaboration among agencies, and hopes to work toward their common goals of job placement, increased internet access and housing assistance.

“Our work will be in continuing to go to chamber events, continuing to speak out about what it is we do, monitoring the employment environment here in Astoria, and getting to know other agencies and employers,” she said.

*EVEN IF YOU DON'T THINK YOU HAVE A DISABILITY, IF YOU'RE SEEKING EMPLOYMENT AND YOU ARE FINDING IT DIFFICULT, THERE'S A CHALLENGE OR BARRIER TO YOU FINDING THAT EMPLOYMENT.*

Dee Norbury, director of Bridge City Mentors

or barrier to you finding that employment. Apply for VR, they’ll either deny you or accept you.”

Bridge City is a referral based program, and they often receive clients through the state.

The program is also working with the Depart-

ment of Human Services, Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare, WorkSource Oregon and the Youth Transi-

tion Program. They are also open to private clients.

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## the Astorian

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