

IN BRIEF

County unemployment rate declined in November

Clatsop County's unemployment rate was 4.8% in November.

The seasonally adjusted rate was down from 5.1% in October and down from 7.1% from November 2020.

The state's unemployment rate was 4.2% in November, according to the Oregon Employment Department, the same as the nationwide rate.

Warren woman to seek state Senate appointment

A Warren woman will seek to finish the term of state Sen. Betsy Johnson.

Rachel Armitage, who worked as an assistant in the Oregon Legislature in 2016 and 2017, said her priorities for Senate District 16 will be jobs and housing.

"As a lifelong Oregonian and the daughter of a teacher and a pastor, I know that community is often what gets us through hard times. That's why I'm seeking this appointment," she said in a release. "Our community needs a leader in Salem who brings us together even when we have strong disagreements — who will be an independent voice for rural Oregonians."

Armitage graduated from the Emerge Oregon program, which trains Democratic women to run for office.

Next month, county commissioners in Senate District 16 will consider Johnson's replacement from a list of three to five Democrats. Party leaders will put forth possible names.

Johnson resigned earlier this month to focus on her gubernatorial bid as an independent.

Elk-feeding tours in Jewell canceled over virus

With state offices closed because of the coronavirus, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will not offer opportunities this winter for the public to feed Roosevelt elk at Jewell Meadows Wildlife Area.

Normally, these elk-feeding tours take place from December through February.

The wildlife area remains open, and people can watch elk being fed from 9 to 10 a.m. every day until mid-March.

King tides return to the coast

King tides will once again rule the North Coast this New Year's Day through Jan. 3.

The seasonal high tides can bring flooding and dangerous conditions. The North Coast Tourism Management Network recommends that beachgoers stay out of the water, off drift logs and away from jetties during the three-day event.

— The Astorian

DEATHS

Dec. 21, 2021

MARKS, Glenn Raymond, 91, of Svensen, died in Svensen. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

Dec. 19, 2021

BRANDT, Lorna M., 67, of Gearhart, died in Gearhart. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

arrangements.

Dec. 18, 2021

ALLEN, Denise M., 67, of Svensen, died in Svensen. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

BELSHE, Zane, 59, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

ON THE RECORD

Robbery

• Greyson Ryder Saunders, 30, of Seaside, was indicted this week for robbery in the third degree and theft in the second degree. The crimes are alleged to have occurred in October 2020.

Felon in possession of firearm

• Tyler August Riekola, 31, of Astoria, was indicted last week for being a felon in possession of a firearm, assault in the fourth degree constituting domestic violence

and recklessly endangering another person.

Burglary

• Turrell Thomas Eastman, 33, of Seaside, was arraigned this week on charges of burglary in the second degree and theft in the second degree. The crimes are alleged to have occurred in August.

DUI

• Daniel L. Cary, 52, of Astoria, was arrested on Tuesday near Marine Drive and 23rd Street for driving under the influence of intoxicants and reckless driving.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

TUESDAY

Clatsop County Planning Commission/Countywide Advisory Committee, 9 a.m., joint meeting, (electronic meeting).

Astoria Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

the Astorian

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Edward Stratton/The Astorian

Da Yang Seafood has a processing plant at the Port of Astoria.

Da Yang Seafood: Has faced several fines in the past for similar issues

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According to Lauren Wirtis, a public affairs specialist for the Department of Environmental Quality, the violations were determined based on Da Yang's self-reporting.

"The exceedance amount varied in each case, but the exceedances were significant," Wirtis said in an email.

The highest exceedance of total suspended solids — a measure of floating particles — reached upward of

1,000 percent over the limit, Wirtis said.

Da Yang has faced several fines in the past for similar issues. In 2015, the company was fined more than \$85,000 for improperly discharging wastewater into Youngs Bay over seven years. The seafood processor was also fined \$54,600 in 2017 for discharging wastewater into the Columbia River.

Representatives from Da Yang could not immediately be reached for comment.

Offices close for Christmas

The Astorian

In observance of Christmas Day on Saturday, all federal and state offices are closed Friday.

Clatsop County and city of Astoria offices close at noon Thursday, and are closed Friday. Warrenton and Cannon Beach city offices are closed Thursday and Friday. Gearhart and Seaside city offices are closed Friday.

All U.S. post offices are closed Friday, and there is no mail delivery.

Astoria, Jewell, Knappa, Warrenton/Hammond and Seaside (including Cannon Beach and Gearhart) school district schools, and Clatsop Community College, are closed for winter break.

The Astoria Library closes at noon Thursday, and is closed Friday and Saturday. The Seaside Library is closed Saturday. The Warrenton Library is closed Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

The Port of Astoria offices and services are closed Thursday and Friday.

Garbage collection through Recology Western Oregon and the city of Warrenton garbage collection are not affected by the holiday. Recology Western Oregon's transfer station closes at 2 p.m. Friday, and is closed Saturday.

The Sunset Pool in Seaside closes at 1 p.m. Friday,

and is closed Saturday and Sunday. The Astoria Aquatic Center is closed Saturday.

The Clatsop County Heritage Museum, Oregon Film Museum, Flavel House and Carriage House are closed Friday and Saturday. The Uppertown Firefighters' Museum is closed for the winter.

The Sprouts Learning Center is closed Friday. Fort Clatsop is closed Friday and Saturday. The Columbia River Maritime Museum is closed Saturday.

The Sunset Empire Transportation District final run schedule for Friday is as follows: Route 101 leaves McDonald's in Astoria at 5:53 p.m., and ends at Fred Meyer in Warrenton at 6:20 p.m.; Route 20 leaves Seaside Cinema at 4:35 p.m., leaves the Cannon Beach Visitor Center at 5:12 p.m., and ends at Seaside Cinema at 5:30 p.m.; Route 10 leaves the Astoria Transit Center at 5:05 p.m., and ends at the Astoria Transit Center at 5:28 p.m.; and Route 15 leaves Warrenton Mini Mart at 5:52 p.m., and ends at the Warrenton Mini Mart 6:07 p.m.

The Columbia Connector route is running its regular schedule on Friday. There is no bus service on Saturday, and the Astoria and Seaside transit centers are closed.

The Astorian does not publish a newspaper on Christmas.

Family appeals for public's help in finding missing Seaside veteran

By R.J. MARX
The Astorian

SEASIDE — The family of a missing veteran has appealed for the public's help in locating him.

Evan Goin was reported missing from his home off U.S. Highway 26 near milepost 6 after a welfare check last week.

Goin is a supply specialist and liaison officer with the Oregon National Guard at Camp Rilea.

"This isn't normal," said Rhea Goin, who was with Goin for five years. "This has never, ever, ever happened before. He would never leave his children and not come back. His kids are his absolute world. This is so far beyond the norm. It's just absolutely mind-boggling."

Several searches of the area were unsuccessful.

"We're still going to be trying to figure out what's going on, checking any leads that we might get in," said Sgt. Bruce Scott of the Clatsop County Sheriff's



Evan Goin

Office. "Sightings. Things that people call in. We're still going to continue to check those things out."

Goin, 44, is described as 5 feet 7 inches tall and about 170 pounds. He was last seen at home on Dec. 13, according to family.

"He's very loved. He's very respected," Rhea Goin said. "Anybody that thinks that they may have seen him, if they know anything, if they heard from him — even if they talked to him in the days leading up to it and they haven't been contacted — we just want to find him."

Former patient sues Columbia Memorial alleging negligence

By ERICK BENGEL
The Astorian

A former patient at Columbia Memorial Hospital is suing for alleged negligence.

Leonard Brown claims that a hospital radiologist examining a CT scan failed to notice a blood clot in Brown's abdomen that cut off circulation to his bowel.

The complaint, filed in Circuit Court in November, says that Brown nearly died and is now fully disabled. He will continue to suffer from injuries to his colon and small bowel, the complaint says.

Brown is asking for \$2.9 million covering economic and noneconomic damages. Brown wants a jury trial.

After getting his appendix and a piece of small bowel removed at Columbia Memorial in spring 2019, Brown returned to the hospital's emergency department after "three days of constant epigastric and lower chest pain"

and other abnormal signs, according to the complaint.

A CT scan, according to the radiologist, showed constipation but no "post-surgical complications."

Less than two weeks later, Brown returned to the emergency department "reporting nausea and constant, severe and diffuse abdominal pain," the complaint says. Another CT scan showed thrombosis in his veins indicating blocked blood flow.

Brown was taken to Oregon Health & Science University Hospital in Portland for a series of surgeries. Part of his bowel, the complaint says, had "become necrotic." Brown spent more than two weeks at OHSU.

Judy Snyder, Brown's Portland-based attorney, could not be reached for comment.

Nancee Long, Columbia Memorial's communications director, said the hospital does not comment on pending litigation.

WARRENTON

Commissioner addresses flooding problems by deadline

By ETHAN MYERS
The Astorian

WARRENTON — City Commissioner Rick Newton was able to fix the flooding problems caused by infill on a property he owns before a city-imposed deadline.

The infill, which came from a nearby road reconstruction project, is still on his property, Newton said, but he implemented a storm drain that ties in with the city's stormwater system. With help from Big River Construction, he fixed the problem late last week.

"This will be permanent. He still has to fix the sidewalk that he cut out, but the weather isn't really ready to pour concrete right now ... and he will have to place some sod," Scott Hazelton, the city's planning director, said. "There are a couple



A city commissioner has fixed flooding problems flagged by the city.

restoration pieces that need to occur, but the most part it's done."

City commissioners agreed with a Planning Commission decision that the infill dumped on Newton's property last summer was of improper material

and was causing flooding on neighboring properties. The commission voted to give

Newton three days — until 7:30 p.m. last Friday — to fix the flooding problem or face \$500 fines per day until he did.

Additionally, the amount of infill exceeded what was allowed without a permit, and because the project was approved by the city, it was viewed as a potential ethical breach.

Three commissioners urged Newton to step down because of his recent behavior, which they consider problematic. Newton insists that he won't resign.

"They can set me on fire and I won't quit. Once I give my word, that's my word," Newton said.

GAME MEAT PROCESSING



Debbie D's will be at **Cash & Carry** in Warrenton **10:00 a.m. every Saturday (except Christmas and New Year's Day)** to pick up and deliver meat for processing. **The last pickup will be January 8th.**

Please call Mon-Fri between 10-4 so we know to expect you.

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