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City to review homeless camping

A list of places to come later

By NICOLE BALES
The Astorian

The Astoria City Council expects to review a camping ordinance in the coming weeks that outlines the time and manner for when someone can sleep on public property.

Since recent federal court rulings and state legislation, police can only enforce illegal camping on public property if there are adequate shelter spaces available for people to sleep. In the absence of adequate shelter space, Astoria plans to detail the time, place and manner someone can sleep outdoors.

The time and manner portion of the ordinance will detail the overnight hours people can sleep and the items they can keep with them to stay warm and dry.

During a City Council meeting Monday night, Police Chief Geoff Spalding said the ordinance will reference a second document that would identify places people can sleep.

"I suspect that that's going to take a substantial amount of time to actually vet some of those locations, if any of them become practical," Spalding said.

In the meantime, the city can move forward with the rest of the ordinance.

"By doing this, I think this would also give us some flexibility that if we do identify certain locations that we could always add an additional location or remove a location if it becomes problematic, as opposed to having to come back and make an ordinance modification every time that the list gets updated," the police chief said.

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Port adopts waterfront master plan

A significant step toward redevelopment

By ETHAN MYERS
The Astorian

The Port of Astoria Commission voted Tuesday to adopt the waterfront master plan.

A collaboration between the Port and the city, the plan seeks to tackle redevelopment between Pier 1 and the Astoria Bridge in Uniontown. Over the past eight months, the Port and the city, along with Walker Macy — the landscape architecture, urban design and planning firm that was hired to craft the plan — collected input from an advisory committee, stakeholders and the public.

At a Port workshop several weeks ago, Walker Macy gave Port commissioners a final look at the draft and a chance to make suggestions. On Tuesday, in the Port Commission's return to in-person meetings during the coronavirus pandemic, commissioners voted 4 to 0 to sign off on the plan. Commissioner James Campbell was not present at the meeting.

The City Council will look to adopt the plan in early May.

The plan could feature a new hotel to replace the Astoria Riverwalk Inn, the opportunity for private development of marine industrial uses on Pier 1 and concepts for a market hall, fishing village and boardwalk around the West Mooring Basin.

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LIGHTSHIP RETURNS

Lightship Columbia has returned from dry dock in Portland and is temporarily at Tongue Point. Caroline Wuebben, of the Columbia River Maritime Museum, said the museum hopes to have the ship back at the 17th Street Dock and ready for the public in May. See more photos online at dailyastorian.com

Lydia Ely/
The Astorian

Piano trio adjusts performance over Russia concerns

'Siege of Leningrad' not part of festival

By ABBEY McDONALD
The Astorian

The Liberty Theatre and Hermitage Piano Trio have made adjustments to the Third Dimension Festival in response to recent events in Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The festival, planned for June 11 to June 26, includes performances from the Grammy-nominated group and special guests. It will also host the first Astoria International Chamber Music Competition, open to all artists between 18 and 30.

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The Hermitage Piano Trio released a photo standing with Ukraine.

Labor commissioner a workplace referee

Several candidates competing in May

By GARY WARNER
Oregon Capital Bureau

It's Oregon's mystery political job. One of five elected executive offices — alongside governor, secretary of state, treasurer and attorney general.

The position has been around since 1903 — with different names. It has no term limits — one man served 24 years. Four Republicans and three Democrats held the job before it became a nonpartisan office with the 1996 election.

The mystery office? Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries, commonly referred to by its acronym, BOLI. Often, the job is called by its original name, labor commissioner.

Val Hoyle dropped her reelection bid for labor commissioner to run for the 4th Congressional District seat of retiring U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Springfield.

The vacuum left by Hoyle's departure from the race drew three veteran political candidates.

Yamhill County Commissioner Casey Kulla switched from the Democratic primary for governor to the BOLI race.

Portland employee rights attorney Christina Stephenson, who placed



second in a 2020 run for state House District 33, filed the day after Kulla.

On the last day to file for office, former Rep. Cheri Helt, R-Bend, jumped into the race.

Rounding out the field are Cornelius forest management businessman Aaron Baca, Aloha banker Brent Barker, Oregon City truck driver Chris Henry and Greenhorn laborer Robert Neuman.

If one can win more than 50% of the vote in the May election, the race is over — there would be no runoff in November. With seven candidates and three with political track records, it's a longshot that the winner won't be determined until the November election.

The BOLI job is part workplace referee, part civil rights enforcer, part job training promoter, part government information desk and complaint box.

There's a \$31 million budget for the office — not a lot by state government standards. The job pays \$77,000 — less than the

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