

IN BRIEF

Providence Seaside Hospital to close pharmacy

SEASIDE — Providence Seaside Hospital will close its retail pharmacy on April 25.

The announcement came after seven years at the location.

“The decision to close did not come lightly and we have greatly appreciated serving the retail pharmacy needs of the community over the years,” hospital spokesman Mike Antrim said. “Given ongoing and increasing regulatory requirements, and balancing the needs of the hospital and clinics, we feel this is the right decision.”

Tongue Point Job Corps Center seeks members for workforce council

Tongue Point Job Corps Center is seeking new members for its Center Workforce Council, which will meet virtually on May 18.

The workforce council is made of members of the public, including public officials and industry professionals, who provide feedback to Tongue Point Job Corps about training programs. The council meets twice a year.

Interested applicants can email Melissa Padgett at Padgett.Melissa@jobcorps.org.

Warrenton High School club to host multicultural fair

The Warrenton High School Multicultural Club is hosting a fair that will showcase various cultures from around the world.

The fair, on Wednesday at Warrenton Grade School, will feature trivia, activities for kids and booths on specific regions and cultures from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Entrance to the fair is free, and all donations will go to the club, which was founded in 2019 to honor student diversity at Warrenton High School.

— *The Astorian*

DEATHS

April 15, 2022

OLSON, Anna Aurora, 93, of Astoria, died in Astoria. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the

arrangements.

April 13, 2022

SMITH, Don, 61, of Astoria, died in Astoria. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

MEMORIALS

Monday, April 18

TARABOCHIA, Joseph Burton — Recitation of the Holy Rosary at 12:30 p.m. at St. Mary, Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 1465 Grand Ave., followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 1 p.m. Private burial follows at Ocean View Cemetery in Warrenton.

An online guest book may be signed at caldwellsmortuary.com

Thursday, April 21

OLSON, John Frederick — Vistation from 10 a.m. to noon, Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary, 1165 Franklin Ave. Olson, 82, of Warrenton, died April 12 in Warrenton.

ON THE RECORD

Criminal trespass

• Thomas Lee Freeman, 60, of Astoria, was arrested on Monday for first-degree criminal trespass and third-degree criminal mischief. Freeman was found sleeping in someone's rental home on the 1300 block of Jerome Avenue in Astoria.

Theft

• Kayla Marie Hundle-Sandoval, 29, of Astoria, was arrested on Monday at Walmart in Warrenton for second-degree theft.

DUI

• Adam Alexander Smith, 37, of Astoria, was arrested on Saturday at 22nd and Commercial streets in Astoria for driving under the influence of intoxicants, reckless driving, second-degree criminal mischief and refusing to take a Breathalyzer test. Smith allegedly struck a power pole, which splintered and collapsed onto the vehicle, police said. The incident closed the road for about 12 hours while a power company dismantled and replaced the pole, police said.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

MONDAY

Warrenton Marinas Advisory Committee, 2 p.m., City Hall, 225 S. Main Ave.

Jewell School District Board, 6 p.m., Jewell School Library, 83874 Oregon Highway 103.

Astoria City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

TUESDAY

Port of Astoria Commission, 4 p.m., 10 Pier 1, Suite 209.

Cannon Beach City Council, Design Review Board and Planning Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower Ave.

Gearhart City Council, 6 p.m., special meeting on parks master plan, (electronic meeting).

Seaside Planning Commission, 6 p.m., work session, City Hall, 989 Broadway.

the Astorian

Established July 1, 1873
(USPS 035-000)

Published Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday by EO Media Group, 949 Exchange St., PO Box 210, Astoria, OR 97103 Telephone 503-325-3211, 800-781-3211 or Fax 503-325-6573. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Astorian, PO Box 210, Astoria, OR 97103-0210

DailyAstorian.com

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEMBER CERTIFIED AUDIT OF CIRCULATIONS, INC.

Circulation phone number:
800-781-3214

Periodicals postage paid at Astoria, OR

ADVERTISING OWNERSHIP

All advertising copy and illustrations prepared by The Astorian become the property of The Astorian and may not be reproduced for any use without explicit prior approval.

COPYRIGHT

Entire contents © Copyright, 2022 by The Astorian.



Printed on recycled paper

Subscription rates
Effective January 12, 2021

MAIL

EZpay (per month).....\$10.75
13 weeks in advance.....\$37.00
26 weeks in advance.....\$71.00
52 weeks in advance.....\$135.00

DIGITAL

EZpay (per month).....\$8.25

Clatsop County briefs city on surplus property for housing

By ERICK BENDEL
The Astorian

Surplus land that Clatsop County owns within Astoria city limits could be used for low-income housing.

At an Astoria City Council work session on Friday morning, the council discussed with county leaders what could be done to add housing, child care and social services on properties the county put up last week for expressions of interest.

Among the 15 properties the county has made avail-

able, eight are in Astoria.

“We’ve never before taken a hard look at the use of our county-owned land for housing,” County Commissioner Pamela Wev, who represents Astoria, said.

One downtown lot, the site of the former Darigold Building at Ninth and Duane streets, is used for parking.

Seven vacant lots of about 9 acres between Astoria Middle School and Olney Avenue have topographical concerns, such as trees and slopes.

Assistant County Manager Monica Steele said the county

wants to hear from developers about what can be done with the wooded parcels.

The county has set aside federal American Rescue Plan Act funds for housing, which potentially includes micro shelters, Steele said. “It is the city’s decision how that approach is taken, but the county is here to support,” she said.

The City Council discussed the main forms small dwellings can take — from shelters for people transitioning out of homelessness, who could have supportive ser-

VICES on-site, to tiny homes for people priced out of the housing market.

When the issue of tiny homes came before a different City Council several years ago, councilors ultimately directed city staff not to pursue it, arguing it was inconsistent with Astoria’s architecture.

At Friday’s work session, all five councilors said they would be open to the micro shelter concept.

The deadline to submit ideas for the county parcels is May 13.

Business owners start nonprofit for Heritage Square

The goal is to create a community space

By NICOLE BALES
The Astorian

Two downtown business owners have started Save Heritage Square Astoria, a nonprofit with the goal of turning the block’s empty pit into an outdoor community space.

Diana Gulley, who owns Gulley’s Butcher Shop, and Nicole Maki, who runs Women Web Design next door, registered the nonprofit this month.

The women were vocal opponents of a proposed workforce housing project at Heritage Square. The City Council stepped away from the project this month after getting the first detailed look at the potential cost.

The City Council, which was already divided over the project, concluded the cost was too high, especially given the level of public opposition.

Maki said that while she liked the housing idea, she did not think Heritage Square was the right spot.

She said her great-grandparents spent time at the block and her grandson will spend time there. “That’s seven generations of Clatsop,” Maki said. “That can



A rendering of the Garden of Surging Waves with a plaza at Heritage Square.

always be a space that all of us have shared.”

Maki and Gulley plan to pitch a partnership with the city in which the nonprofit can raise money to fill the pit and turn it into a space where people can gather for concerts, markets and other activities.

Even if the City Council does not commit to creating an outdoor community space, Maki hopes to raise funds that can assist with beautifying Heritage Square, such as fresh striping or adding flower boxes.

“This project is just totally focused on making sure we have something there that looks good,” Gulley said. “A place people can go sit and hang out. Some trees like for Christmas festivals. Maybe

we can have our tree lighting there and Santa.”

The city acquired the property two decades ago when Safeway moved to Uppertown. After the foundation of the former market crumbled from heavy rains in 2010, the pit became the defining feature of the block.

The Garden of Surging Waves, a park honoring the history of the Chinese in Astoria, opened in 2014 with the hopes of a plaza or amphitheater to follow.

Maki and Gulley want to turn the page back to that plan, which they outlined on their website, Revise Astoria.

The City Council’s direction on Heritage Square has shifted over the past several years.

The council considered

Heritage Square as a site for a new library with the potential for housing before rejecting the idea in 2016.

In 2017, the council agreed to make housing at Heritage Square a policy goal, but no progress was made until last fall, when city councilors identified workforce housing as the priority.

Megan Leatherman, the city’s community development director, said it is up to the City Council on how the city proceeds with Heritage Square.

She said the city has worked with groups in the past that wanted to tackle or clean up certain areas. She said that as long as groups want to operate within legal parameters, the city is willing to work with them.

Housing: ‘Doesn’t tackle workforce housing’

Continued from Page A1

Wendy Klein, a development manager with Portland-based Community Development Partners, said the design would match the original footprint of the former St. Mary’s Hospital.

Klein said 25 units would be reserved for people on the housing authority’s housing choice voucher program waiting list, who tend to prefer one-bedroom apartments. Most earn 30% and below of the area median income, and many are seniors.

Thirteen units would be reserved for supportive housing for people facing homelessness.

“To get a project financed to meet the state’s goals, we really follow the lead of the state’s priorities,” Klein said.

She said full-time resident services will be available at the annex. The housing authority will partner with Clatsop Community Action to provide supportive housing case management.

The project would be financed primarily through low-income housing tax credits and other government assistance.

The housing authority plans to apply to the state for government financial help by the end of the month. The agency expects to learn whether the application for government funding has been approved by August.

If the project is awarded



The Northwest Oregon Housing Authority has proposed more affordable housing at Owens-Adair near downtown.

funding this year, it would resume the design process and go before the city’s Historic Landmarks Commission for review.

Construction could begin by the summer of 2023 and the project could be completed by 2024.

“Obviously our affordable housing needs are huge, and across the whole spectrum of incomes,” Mayor Bruce Jones said. “This doesn’t tackle workforce housing for us at all, but it does tackle that one slice for seniors and folks needing the permanent supportive housing and low-income housing. And that’s critical to addressing the shortfalls in other areas. Just by providing housing for one segment, and you’re freeing up housing in other segments.”

Jones and others on the City Council noted the

and people were in shock that anything could cost that much,” the mayor said. “And I think this is a good reality check. Your project — \$22.6 million, \$452,000 per unit — this is the reality check of what housing costs today. And especially, as you note, you want a quality building that will last a very long time, be a credit to the community, not become rundown, just as the Heritage Square proposal was to have been very quality and architecturally compatible with the historic downtown.

“That means it’s more expensive. That means it costs more to make a quality building that lasts for decades and decades.”

City Councilor Tom Hilton said, “I’m sure our community will definitely look forward to the development of that building. It’s very historic, St. Mary’s Hospital. I spent a lot of time in the emergency room there.

“Thank you very much for what you’re doing for our community. It’s desperately needed,” he said.

VOLUNTEER PICK OF THE WEEK



Jojo

4 year old male
Dachshund

Find merriment and a touch of magic in this sweet second chance companion.

See Petfinder.com

Sponsored by
Bayshore
Animal Hospital

CLATSOP COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER
1315 SE 19th St., Warrenton • 861- PETS
www.dogscats.org Noon to 4pm, Tues-Sat

WANTED

Alder and Maple Saw Logs & Standing Timber

Northwest Hardwoods • Longview, WA

Contact: John Anderson • 360-269-2500