

## IN BRIEF

## County gets state grant to fight addiction

A state grant of \$6.2 million will go toward fighting addiction in Clatsop County.

The Behavioral Health Resource Networks grant will address the need for housing, harm reduction, drug and alcohol treatment, overdose prevention, employment support and other services.

The county's Public Health Department, Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare, Clatsop Community Action, Helping Hands Reentry Outreach Centers and Providence Seaside Hospital Foundation will receive funds. The organizations collaborated on the application, the county said.

Monica Steele, the assistant county manager, noted at a Public Safety Coordinating Council meeting on Friday that because grant funding is frequently tied to population, rural communities don't often receive funding in amounts that can make a difference.

## Coast Guard rescues people from stranded yacht off Washington state

Seven crew members aboard a yacht stranded about 25 miles off Washington state were saved by the U.S. Coast Guard on Saturday.

A transom door in the yacht's stern had malfunctioned, and water had started rushing into the 143-foot vessel, the Coast Guard said. The crew members also observed smoke, which led them to take fire suppression measures that disabled the yacht, the Coast Guard said.

— *The Astorian*

## DEATHS

May 5, 2022

**BLAIR, Philip James**, 95, of Astoria, died in Astoria.

Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

**HOWELL, Charles Wesley**, 72, of Warrenton, died in Portland. Caldwell's Luce-Lay-

ton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

May 4, 2022

**SETALA, Kenneth William**, 84, of Naselle, Washington, died in Portland.

Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

## MEMORIALS

Friday, May 13

**OLSON, Anna (Peggy)** — Memorial at 2:30 p.m., Bethany Free Lutheran Church, 451 34th St., followed by coffee and pie.

Saturday, May 14

**BELLINGHAM, Marie J.** — Celebration of life service at noon, Birkenfeld Community Church, 11249 Oregon Highway 202 in Birkenfeld, with Dan Cano officiating.

**HARROD, Jeffery Len** — Celebration of life from 1 to 4 p.m., Sons of Norway Lodge, Nidaros Lodge No. 16, 2790 U.S. Highway 101 in Gearhart. Hawaiian attire preferred.

**VALDEZ, Mark Dennis** — Final military salute and celebration of life at 2 p.m., Shelter C, Coffenburg Lake, Fort Stevens State Park in Hammond. All are welcome.

## ON THE RECORD

## Disorderly conduct

• **Alexander Yuryevich Tribunsov**, 34, of Diamond Bar, California, was arrested on Saturday in Astoria for second-degree disorderly conduct, second-degree criminal trespass and violating a release agreement.

He was refused service at Silver Salmon Grille on Commercial Street after attempting to go behind the bar and was being argumentative with patrons and throw-

ing objects, police said.

Tribunsov was also involved in a disturbance on Thursday at Camp 18, where he was destroying bird feeders and other property. He was put on a mental health hold and taken to Providence Seaside Hospital, police said.

The next day, he was arrested in Seaside for second-degree criminal mischief for slashing someone's tires at Seaside Stop & Go on S. Roosevelt Drive, police said.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

## TUESDAY

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

**Cannon Beach City Council**, 6 p.m., work session and special meeting, City Hall, 163 E. Gower Ave.

**Lewis and 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.

**Clatsop Community College Board**, 6:30 p.m., Columbia 219, 1651 Lexington Ave., Astoria.

## WEDNESDAY

**Clatsop County Board of Commissioners**, 6 p.m., (electronic meeting).

**Warrenton-Hammond School District Board**, 6 p.m., Warrenton High School library, 1700 S. Main Ave.

**Astoria School District Board**, 7 p.m., (electronic meeting).

## THURSDAY

**Seaside Civic and Convention Center Commission**, 5 p.m., 415 First Ave.

**Gearhart Planning Commission**, 6 p.m., City Hall, 698 Pacific Way.

## the Astorian

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Lissa Brewer/The Astorian

**Mary Altieri and 'Poptart' the goat made an appearance as the Astoria Sunday Market returned downtown on Mother's Day.**

## SUNDAY BEST

## Man sues hospital over loss of leg

By **ERICK BENGEL**  
*The Astorian*

A patient of Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria is suing for alleged negligence that led to the loss of his right leg below the knee.

In October 2018, Douglas Flesey went to his doctor with a thorn in his foot and the beginnings of an infection, according to the complaint filed in Circuit Court in March. The doctor prescribed antibiotics.

Flesey's foot soon had a necrotic ulceration. The doctor removed the dead tissue and, Flesey alleges, neglected to clean the wound beforehand. Flesey also claims the doctor used a pad to clean the wound after placing it on the floor to catch dripping blood.

The doctor wrapped the foot and advised Flesey to proceed with antibiotics.

A week later, the doctor removed the bandages, revealing a blackened wound, the complaint claims. More antibiotics followed.

By early November 2018, the discoloration had spread to the last two toes.

"A prescription for antibiotics was given once again and Mr. Flesey was instructed to return in one month," the complaints says.

Six days later, four toes were black. The wound had turned gangrenous. A vascular surgeon at Providence St. Vincent Medical Center in Portland told Flesey that his foot had lost most of its blood flow, according to the complaint.

Flesey's lower leg was amputated on Nov. 15, 2018.

Flesey is suing the hospital for the doctor's alleged failure to diagnose and the consequences that followed. These included a wheelchair, a prosthetic leg, modifications in Flesey's living space and reduced physical activity.

Flesey is asking for more than \$2.8 million covering economic and noneconomic damages.

Patrick Angel, Flesey's Lake Oswego-based attorney, could not be reached for comment.

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

## Man sues hospital, alleging unnecessary surgery

By **ERICK BENGEL**  
*The Astorian*

A man who alleges that a doctor at Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria advised him to undergo a traumatic and unnecessary surgery in May 2020 is suing for malpractice.

The patient, Sean Osten, claims he was not given alternative options for the radical orchiectomy and has suffered the loss of a testicle. In the suit, filed in Circuit Court in April, he asks for \$1.6 million in compensation for medical bills and the emotional toll.

"Even reasonable doctors and good doctors make mistakes, and I think that's what happened here," Faith Morse, a Medford-based attorney representing Osten, said. "There was an error, and unfortunately it hurt Sean pretty badly."

She said Osten's case is important because of accountability.

"When we make mistakes, it's important that we make them right, and we fix the problem that was caused," Morse said. "And in this case, unfortunately, Sean has some pretty significant repercussions."

Amy Delisa, the hospital's attorney, could not be reached for comment.

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

## Kotek and Read differ on track records

## Top contenders in the Democratic primary for governor

By **HILLARY BORRUD**  
*The Oregonian*

Oregon's open 2022 race for governor has been marked with excitement and novelty, from an unusually high number of candidates to the turbo-funded campaign of an unaffiliated former lawmaker expected to split the traditional major party vote in November.

But in the race for the Democratic Party nomination, insiders were able to predict the two leading candidates more than four years in advance: former state House Speaker Tina Kotek and state Treasurer Tobias Read. They were the winner and runner-up in a straw poll of party faithful at Oregon Democrats' 2017 summit.

Since then, plenty of speculation swirled about potential contenders, and former New York Times columnist Nick Kristof made a well-funded but short-lived attempt to get on the ballot.

But with just a week until the May 17 election, Kotek and Read are the only candidates with the demonstrated voter support and campaign operations necessary to win.

Paige Richardson, a Democratic political consultant, said multiple factors led to the small number of viable Democratic candidates, compared to the Republican side, in which 19 people are running and at least three have a plausi-



Mark Graves and Beth Nakamura/The Oregonian  
**State Treasurer Tobias Read, left, and former state House Speaker Tina Kotek, right, are the leading candidates in the Democratic primary for governor.**

ble path to win the nomination.

Democratic voters generally recognize that the governor "manages the entire state and the person that goes in there needs to have a level of experience and success, measurable demonstrative success coming into that," she said.

## Experience

Read, 46, has said his executive experience sets him apart from Kotek. He pointed out that he has led the Oregon State Treasury since 2016 and has experience launching programs passed by the Legislature, including the retirement savings plan OregonSaves for workers who don't have that option through their employer.

Of course, Kotek, 55, has nearly a decade of experience as speaker, wrangling a majority of the 60 state House lawmakers to pass a long list of

Democratic priorities, including raising Oregon's minimum wage, setting a statewide rent control policy, abolishing single-family zoning in the state's largest cities and creating a new business tax to fund education while trimming public employee pensions.

The last Oregon governor to win election after serving as state treasurer was Gov. Bob Straub, a Democrat elected on his third try for governor in 1974. Former Gov. John Kitzhaber, who came to office in 1995, was the last governor elected straight from serving in the Legislature.

Read and Kotek both had lengthy careers as lawmakers. They started in the Legislature at the same time, after each winning election in 2006.

Both were lawmakers during the years Oregon sat on more than \$80 million in federal funding to upgrade its unemployment system, as was unaffiliated gubernatorial candidate Betsy Johnson, a former longtime Democratic state senator. Oregon's failure to replace its 1990s technology hamstrung the state during the pandemic, leading to long delays in getting jobless benefits to workers including expanded payments authorized by Congress.

High-profile failures such as the delayed jobless benefits, which left thousands of unemployed Oregonians waiting for months as their finances fell apart during the pandemic, could be part of the reason likely Oregon primary voters listed political leadership as one of their top three concerns in a recent poll commissioned by Oregon Public Broadcasting.

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