

## IN BRIEF

## County places two-year ban on psilocybin on November ballot

A two-year ban on psilocybin businesses in Clatsop County's unincorporated areas is headed for the November ballot.

The county Board of Commissioners on Wednesday passed an ordinance declaring a moratorium on the substance. This will give county staff time to work out regulations that go further than state regulations on how and where psilocybin businesses will operate. A separate resolution and order referred the temporary ban to county voters.

## Astoria school board chooses new member, chairwoman

The Astoria School District Board voted on Wednesday night to appoint Maritza Casarrubias as a new member.

Filling Position 3 on the board, Casarrubias takes over for Jimmy Pearson, the former chairman, who vacated his position earlier this year. The term ends in June next year.

The school board also voted unanimously to elect Heidi Wintermute, the former vice chairwoman, as chairwoman.

School board member Jenna Rickenbach will take over as vice chairwoman.

## Warrenton school board elects new chair as Morrow takes leave of absence

WARRENTON — The Warrenton-Hammond School District Board voted unanimously on Wednesday to elect Greg Morrill as the new chairman.

Morrill's appointment comes as Debbie Morrow, the former board chairwoman, faces an indictment for theft charges related to her previous role with the Clatsop Association of Realtors.

Morrow will remain a member of the school board, but has opted to take a temporary leave of absence from all board responsibilities, Tom Rogozinski, the superintendent of the school district, said in an email.

— The Astorian

## DEATHS

Aug. 10, 2022

**ROHNER,** Anne Irene, 84, of Warrenton, died in Seaside. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

Aug. 9, 2022

**BOYD,** Anthony Lee "Tony," 70, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

arrangements.

**HARTMAN,** Sharon Lee, 66, of Nehalem, died in Seaside. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

**RODRIGUEZ,** Juan Manuel Lopez, 60, of Naselle, Washington, died in Seaside. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

## ON THE RECORD

## Hit-and-run

• Jeremiah David Nolan, 39, of Warrenton, was arrested on Thursday for felony hit-and-run, reckless driving and two counts of reckless endangering. He was also cited for driving uninsured and driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Nollan allegedly crashed a motor home into a power pole at S.E. Main Avenue and S.E. 10th Place in Warrenton, knocking down the mast. He briefly gave chase but was arrested near the scene.

The police report lists six victims: three businesses and three individuals. One individual, a passenger in the motor home, had an artery severed.

## Assault

• Christina Dawn Poole,

35, of Astoria, was arrested on Tuesday near the Bumble Art Studio preschool on W. Marine Drive in Astoria for fourth-degree assault constituting domestic violence and second-degree disorderly conduct.

## Theft

• Michael Patrick McCloskey, 40, of Santa Cruz, California, was indicted on Thursday for first-degree theft and second-degree criminal trespass. On Sunday, he allegedly stole a boat near Lief Erikson Drive in Astoria and took it into a lagoon and the Columbia River. On Monday morning, McCloskey was discovered swimming in the lagoon without the boat and taken to a hospital. The U.S. Coast Guard recovered the boat, police said.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

## MONDAY

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

## TUESDAY

**Port of Astoria Commission,** 4 p.m., 10 Pier 1, Suite 209.  
**Lewis & Clark Fire Department Board,** 6 p.m., main fire station, 34571 U.S. Highway 101 Business.  
**Seaside Planning Commission,** 6 p.m., work session, City Hall, 989 Broadway.  
**Seaside School District Board,** 6 p.m., 2600 Spruce Dr.

## the Astorian

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## CONVERGE



Lydia Ely/The Astorian

Sea gulls and geese converge near the Port of Astoria.

## Oregon appeals court sides with Brown on early prison releases

## District attorneys had challenged governor

By RYAN HAAS  
Oregon Public Broadcasting

The Oregon Court of Appeals ruled Wednesday that Gov. Kate Brown was within her authority to grant clemency in 2020 and 2021 to around 1,000 people convicted of crimes.

The governor's use of her powers to shorten prison sentences drew condemnation from two district attorneys, Linn County's Doug Marteeny and Lane County's Patricia Perlow. The pair of district attorneys and family members of crime victims sued the governor and other state officials to stop the clemency actions.

The district attorneys took particular issue

with Brown's decision to allow 73 people convicted of crimes such as murder, assault, rape and manslaughter while they were younger than 18 to apply for early release. Patrick Lee Harned — who in 1999, at age 16, kidnapped, sexually abused and strangled his neighbor, 7-year-old Ashley Ann Carlson in Astoria — was among those who has petitioned for early release.

The majority of the people receiving clemency were either medically at risk during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic or had helped with wildfire fighting efforts during the historic Labor Day fires of 2020.

While the district attorneys and the crime victims who brought the legal action made technical arguments about why Brown's actions

were overreach, the appeals court said it was also clear there was emotion at stake in the clemency decisions because crime victims felt they were "denied justice."

"The arguments and emotions present in this case echo through the centuries. The power to pardon, sitting within a singular executive — be they monarch, president, or governor — has always been controversial," the opinion states. "Whenever it has been used, it has been lauded by some, and condemned by others."

Still, the appeals court judges said they were "not called here to judge the wisdom of the governor's clemency ... that is a political question." Instead, the judges said their job was to narrowly rule on whether the governor could legally take the action that she did,

and on that front they found her actions legally sound.

"Hurt — no matter how sympathetic — does not translate to authority to challenge and displace commutations that accord with the constitutional powers afforded the governor," the appeals court opinion states.

In a statement to Oregon Public Broadcasting, Perlow said the governor's actions amounted to a "violation of victims' rights," and she hoped the incoming Legislature would take action to put limits on the governor's clemency powers.

"The Court of Appeals has granted the governor unbridled authority to trample on the rights of victims and limit the authority of the 36 district attorneys to enforce those rights," Perlow said.



Lydia Ely/The Astorian

Leah Boles hugs friends after being crowned Astoria Regatta queen.

## Regatta: 'It's such a beautiful thing'

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Annalyse Steele was crowned queen in 2020 in a small ceremony and continued the role through 2021. Last year, the Regatta had some outdoor events, but not a full court.

"It's very exciting to finally get to take part in all of the Regatta events," she said. "Very honored that they kept me around."

Amber Hill, the vice president of the Regatta's board, said being able to return to the usual events, such as the queen's coronation, the Seamen's Memorial, the Grand Land Parade and the Highwater Boat Parade, has brought some normalcy back to the community.

"This is a small community and we are all very tight-

knit, and getting to represent that and be chosen for that is just such a huge honor," she said about being selected queen.

Serving on the Regatta court, the girls learn valuable skills like networking and public speaking, Hill said. They also receive scholarships, with \$4,000 awarded to everyone on the court and an additional \$2,000 for the queen.

The girls became close over their time working together, Steele said. Before the coronation, the princesses spoke about how much Steele meant to them as a friend and a role model.

She said the court is a great support system. "I would get texts from people while I was down at school and just checking in and it was great

to get to connect with everybody," she said.

As a 2004 Regatta princess, Hill said she is still connected to other former princesses.

"It's forever. I mean, this year, we have a 50-year reunion of a Regatta court coming to our parade and we have a past Regatta court coming as well," she said. "It's such a beautiful thing to see it continue."

## Grant: 'A little more self-sufficient'

Continued from Page A1

USDA is to support community and small-business infrastructure (and) to support community and economic development specifically focused on rural America," she said. "There are a lot of agencies that focus on everybody, and we were created specifically to focus on creating equity in our rural communities and access to capital and access to programs."

During her time in the region, Hoffmann also met community leaders at the county and city levels to discuss how they can strategically partner to meet local and regional needs. Housing, child care and workforce development were some of the topics brought up, she said.

"There is such a strong foundation of community leadership in this particular region, it's really impressive to learn about all the ways that community leaders are having an impact," Hoffmann said.

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