

# Avamere: ‘Making good progress’

Continued from Page A1

identified and communicated to staff, and monitored at least weekly,” the survey said. The staff had discussed “possible interventions, such as a nutritional supplement,” but “none had been implemented,” the survey said.

Another resident had an open pressure wound on a buttock. A pressure wound is one, such as a bedsore, that can erupt after staying in place for long periods.

Although the survey noted that a dressing was used, the facility could not show that “the wounds were monitored, at least weekly, to determine effectiveness of interventions.”

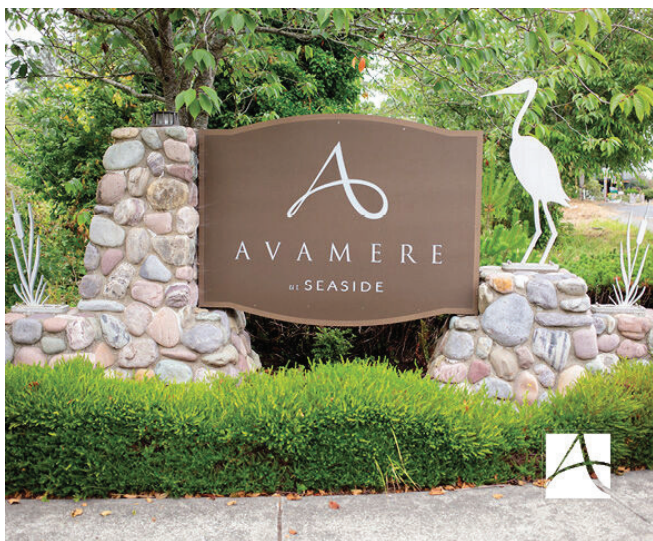
This same resident experienced four falls within a month. The facility could not show it had investigated the unwitnessed incidents to rule out abuse or neglect, or that it had “reviewed the (resident’s) service plan to see if it was being followed ... to prevent further falls,” the survey said.

The survey noted gaps and lapses in how medication was documented, including physicians’ orders. For sampled residents, the facility “failed to ensure orders were carried out as prescribed for all medications administered.”

The medication administration records for a resident on multiple medications “lacked clear parameters on when to administer one versus the other and in what order,” the survey said. The same was true of another resident’s records.

While the survey was underway, Avamere did not offer consistent recreational and group activities to keep residents mentally, physically and socially engaged.

“Residents were observed sitting in common areas for long periods of time watching television, people-watching or remained in their rooms,” the survey said.



Avamere at Seaside

**A state survey of Avamere at Seaside in late June found failures to follow state rules.**

“Multiple residents were observed pacing the halls frequently without being engaged in any individual or group activities.”

A handful of activities — such as chair exercises, brain boosters, chair volleyball, music and movement, coloring craft and gardening club — had been scheduled, then not offered, the survey says.

A staff member told the state that Avamere’s life enrichment director and activity aide were on vacation. In their absence, no plans were made to continue activities, according to the survey.

A couple of residents “were observed pacing the halls and made comments including, ‘There’s nothing to do,’ ‘I don’t know what we can be doing now’ and ‘I’d like to go out of here to do things.’”

Avamere employees said that staff turnover over several months led to “extended periods of time without life enrichment staff,” the survey said.

The survey said that the living environment and kitchen areas were not kept clean or in good repair.

In areas of the main kitchen and kitchenette the survey found “black matter, debris, grease, food matter

and dirt buildup.”

The survey noted gouges in walls, piles of dirt and debris in various places. Walls and doors, from common areas to rooms, had scrapes and chipped or peeling paint. “A hallway near the dining room had eight screws protruding from the wall,” the survey said. Multiple windowsills had chipped paint and collections of dead bugs.

“Pervasive urine odors were noted in halls and common areas during the survey,” the survey said.

Some residents’ service plans did not reflect their current needs or give clear direction to staff, the survey said.

The service plan of one resident, who “had not been out of bed for ‘about’ two months,” did not inform staff about how the person should be cared for regarding the person’s status, involvement in activities, bathing and toileting, falls, dining routine, weight monitoring and other needs, the survey said.

The facility also had trouble coordinating the resident’s care with outside providers.

An outside provider had placed the resident on palliative care. The provider had visited the facility to instruct Avamere’s care staff in “bed

mobility and transfer training ... including using a transfer board” for this resident.

“There was no documented evidence the facility updated the resident’s service plan with these instructions or communicated the bed mobility and transfer instructions to all direct care staff,” the survey said. In addition, “there was no documentation of the outside provider visits and recommendations with care instructions for palliative care.”

When a specialist created a behavior support plan for a resident displaying behaviors — including physical altercations, disrobing and elopement attempts — that negatively impacted other residents, Avamere did not incorporate the support plan into the resident’s service plan, the survey said.

## Guidance

The survey also found other issues.

For example, Avamere was not up to speed on visitation guidance for care homes in the post-public emergency phase of the pandemic. Residents were not allowed to meet freely with their visitors. In at least one case, a visitor was escorted out of the building.

Fire drills were not conducted every other month as required by the state fire code, and fire life safety instruction was not given to staff with the required regularity, the survey said.

Avamere could also not show that residents had received fire and life safety training within a day of moving in, or that the retraining was happening at least annually, per the state fire code.

Elisa Williams, a communications manager at the Department of Human Services, said in an email: “Reports provided by the RN consultant indicate the facility is making good progress on addressing issues to be resolved.”

# Schoolhouse: ‘We started on a shoestring and we are still desperately looking for funds’

Continued from Page A1

The schoolhouse, which neighbors the fire district’s station, was deeded to the fire department in 1991. But the structure, which was built in 1930, according to Clatsop County records, is in need of major upkeep and repair work.

The nonprofit and volunteers who pitched in have already implemented a new septic system and demolished a poorly built section of the building, but more work needs to be done. The group is eyeing a paint job, insulation and a new roof and siding.

For the building to function as an effective emergency shelter, it will also need electric rewiring and a heating system, which will come with substantial cost. Raising money has been an uphill challenge.

“We started on a shoestring and we are still desperately looking for funds,” Benson said.

Benson, a former volunteer firefighter in the rural district for two decades, has taken over grant writing for the nonprofit, which has seen

some success. A community garage sale and a bottle drive have also provided financial assistance.

The structure was at one point used by the Seaside School District and is believed to be the second schoolhouse at the location, but Benson is unsure when it changed uses. After contacting several museums and historical groups and coming up short, Benson is in search of any information or old photographs of the schoolhouse.

Once the building is restored, Benson said, the group will shift focus to emergency preparedness and disaster relief. They plan to store ready-to-eat meals, tents, blankets and other resources.

Whether hosting a movie night, providing a warm space during a power outage or giving assistance during the “Big One,” Benson sees the schoolhouse filling an essential need.

“We honestly expect, with the Cascadia earthquake, there are going to be people on foot trying to get back to Portland, and that is going to be the first stop,” he said.

Follow us on Facebook!

facebook.com/  
**DailyAstorian**



Lydia Ely/The Astorian

People are encouraged to find higher ground after a tsunami threat.

# Cascadia: ‘The coast is vulnerable’

Continued from Page A1

Subduction Zone in the next 50 years.

The research, led by engineering doctoral student Dylan Sanderson, examined factors such as the shaking ground from the earthquake, tsunami inundation depth and distances to airports and maintenance facilities.

Researchers identified disparities in recoveries for coastal communities and determined that additional work is needed to solve these issues.

Communities that had fast regional recoveries under the model had access to roads that were identified as higher priority for repair, while communities that recovered quickly on the local level had access to maintenance facilities.

Because Oregon Department of Transportation repair facilities are mostly located along the Willamette Valley and Interstate 5 corridor, researchers said an increase of available maintenance stations on the coast could benefit more rural communities in their recovery process.

Regional recovery must

be considered alongside local recovery, the researchers also found. Without doing so, commonly used models may be severely underpredicting recovery time from a major disaster, Cox said.

In comparing results to other studies that only considered the local network, the recovery time for a single community was shown to be four times longer than previously estimated, Sanderson said in a statement.

“If we use these models, we have to use them carefully, so that we can plan accordingly,” Cox said. “Our research is showing that we have to be really careful with using some of these other types of tools with their default values that were set up primarily for smaller events.”

“Say for example, an earthquake in Knappa — that might just be a really isolated area that doesn’t consider a huge swath the way that Cascadia really is going to affect our coastline.”

But challenges for communities ultimately vary based on geography and connections, Cox said.

Cox and his team have held several listening sessions on the coast and hope to host more discussions in the future.

They have also held meetings with county leaders and emergency planners. Cox commended Tiffany Brown, Clatsop County’s emergency manager, for her advocacy and preparation on the subject.

“The coast is vulnerable to the Cascadia threat in a way that inland partners aren’t, which is to say that we will have a tsunami, where the bigger, more urban partners won’t,” Brown said. “What would add insult to injury with that is that we are then isolated and we will spend a greater amount of time also, in theory, than our inland partners waiting for assistance.”

Brown emphasized the importance of understanding the threat and knowing how to respond.

The researchers hope to bring their results to communities soon.

“This is something (the communities) are really interested in knowing more about,” Cox said.

**DEL’S O.K. TIRE**

**point S**  
TIRE and AUTO SERVICE



Del Thompson, former owner of OK Rubber Welders.



Klyde Thompson, current owner  
Mike Barnett, manager

**YOUR #1 SOURCE FOR TIRES**

**CUSTOM WHEELS  
AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES**

Over 74 years of the Thompson family putting you first!

(503) 325-2861

35359 Business 101, Astoria

MON - FRI 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

SAT 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

pointstire.com/astoria