

## Two properties declared public nuisances

BY CINDY YINGST  
The Columbia Press

A former residence and a former business were declared public nuisances Tuesday night in the city's ongoing crusade against blight.

Owners of the long-abandoned blue house at 925 E. Harbor Drive and a former gas station at 238 S. Main Ave. have 10 days to clear their properties or face further city intervention.

"(It) has been five years and we're finally doing something," Mark Baldwin said in urging his fellow commissioners to act after Mayor Pro Tem Rick Newton suggested the business owner may only need prodding instead of such severe legal action.

Prodding the done the last time he was on the commission, Baldwin said, and the property directly across from City Hall remained a mess. "So if we wait, are we going to wait another five years?"

Commissioner Tom Dyer spent much of the prior week helping the former tenant remove old engines, batteries, metal drums and vehicles off the property, an effort lauded by fellow commissioners.

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## County Commission candidates: In their own words

### Andy Davis



**Age:** 40  
**City:** Astoria  
**Years in region:** 3  
**Job:** Data analyst, GOBHI  
**Education:** I studied religion at Wabash College and public ad-

ministration at Indiana University.

**Community/political involvement:** Budget committees for Clatsop County and City of Astoria; delegate, Clatsop County Democratic Party; coordinated efforts locally to pass Ballot Measure 101, preserving health care coverage for thousands of Oregonians; served two years in Bloomington, Ind., as a sustainability commissioner.

**Top three issues:** Affordable housing; tight budgets for government work, especially public safety and health; demographic

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### Mark Kujala



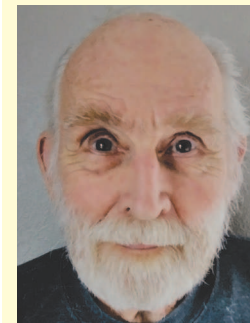
**Age:** 47  
**City:** Warrenton  
**Years in region:** 47  
**Job:** Membership director, Astoria-Warrenton Chamber of Commerce;

owner, Skipanon Brand Seafoods  
**Education:** Bachelor's degree, Oregon State University; Warrenton High School graduate.

**Community involvement:** Astoria Regatta Festival Association admiral's aide, 2016; Warrenton Sunrise Rotary president, 2011-12; Salmon for All board member, 2009-11; Liberty Theatre board member, 2009-11; Clatsop Community College Foundation board, 2011-14; Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Emcee, 2006-16; Hope House Emcee, 2009-present; Warrenton School District Long-Range Facility Task

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### George McCartin



**Age:** 81  
**City:** Astoria  
**Years in region:** 12  
**Job:** Retired trial lawyer.  
**Education:** Juris doctorate, master's degree in edu-

cation/theology, bachelor's degree in philosophy.

**Community involvement:** People's advocate before local government; volunteer and advisor to Astoria Warming Center; programmer/DJ for Coast Community Radio.

**Political/other experience:** Board member and chair of a commission; acting director, San Francisco region Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; served on citizen committees for schools, land-use and city employment.

**Top three issues:** Using the people's tax dollars for expensive  
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## Local Red Cross volunteers prepare at grade school

BY D.B. LEWIS  
The Columbia Press

Eight local volunteer American Red Cross workers met at Warrenton Grade School on Tuesday to practice setting up an emergency shelter.

Volunteers refined their skills for various tasks required to get the ball rolling smoothly with supervision from Jenny Carver, regional ARC disaster program manager, and George Everts, shelter supervisor.

Everts, who lives in Astoria, was promoted after deploying in January to California, where he was a shelter

worker during the massive wildfires. Shelter supervisor is akin to an assistant manager, but with autonomy to adjust an operation to fit local conditions.

Ideally, Everts would share the hands-on organizational chores with a local shelter manager above him, but in rural areas such as Clatsop County, there may not be enough pre-trained local volunteers available.

In a real disaster, Carver or another Red Cross manager might have to serve as shelter manager - by phone or ham radio - if no one could be brought in by nightfall.

The Red Cross used to have full-time employees staffing field offices in most locales nationwide, including one in Astoria. It was funded by donations because the Red Cross receives no taxpayer money.

But with the onset of deep recession in 2008, donations dried up and the organization had to radically reduce overhead to remain functional. Thousands of offices were closed, and the operational model changed from mostly employee-led to mostly volunteer-led.

Carver oversees a five-county team

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Source: City of Warrenton

Owners of a deteriorating house on Harbor Drive have 10 days to remove the nuisance.