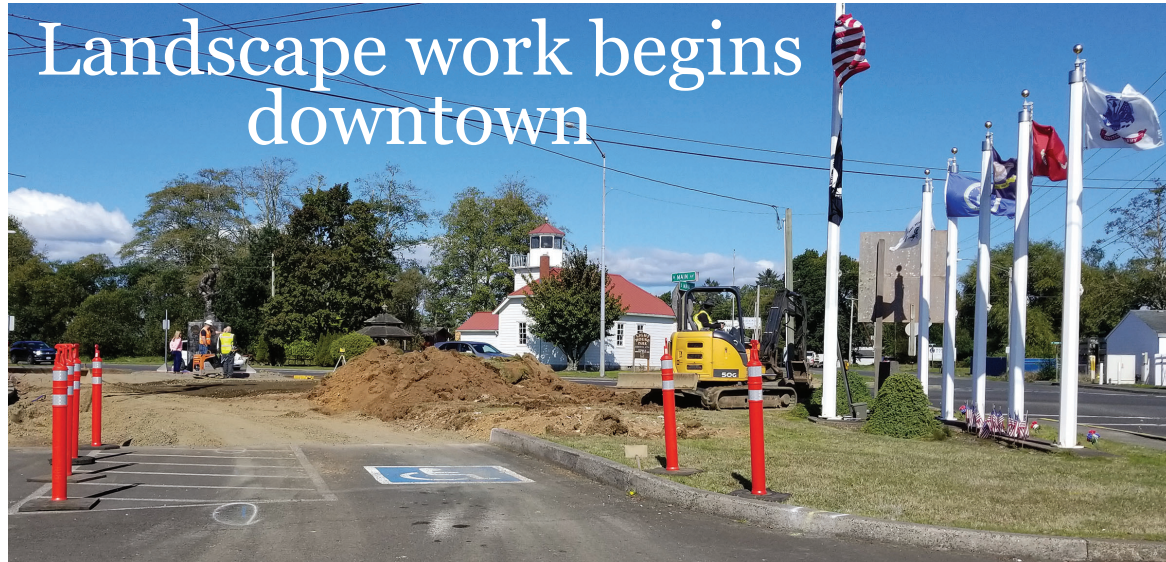


Landscape work begins downtown



Cindy Yingst

A crew from Big River Construction adds soil amendment after removing asphalt in the small park adjacent to Dairy Maid and the post office. The plaza revitalization is being done with Warrenton Urban Renewal money and includes a public gathering area with benches, trees and other landscaping. Utility pole bump-outs on South Main Avenue and a triangular park north of Warrenton High School are included in the improvements.

Tribes show just how important Tansy Point is

BY CINDY YINGST
The Columbia Press

The Confederated Lower Chinook Tribes quietly purchased 10 acres this spring at Tansy Point, the site of one of the most important yet troubling moments in the history of local Indian tribes.

Last month, the tribes won a \$6,000 state grant to construct an interpretive kiosk on the site of the 1851 Tansy Point Treaty.

The award from Oregon Cultural Trust was one of \$2.7 million announced statewide to cultural and historical groups. Of that figure, \$682,000 went to 45 county and tribal cultural coalitions.

The tribe plans to restore the habitat and stream running through the property and build a plank house or other structure there, a spokeswoman said.

"We're in the process of writing a land-use policy and long-term maintenance plan for it," said Rachel Cushman, secretary/treasurer of the confederated tribes,

based in Bay Center, Wash.

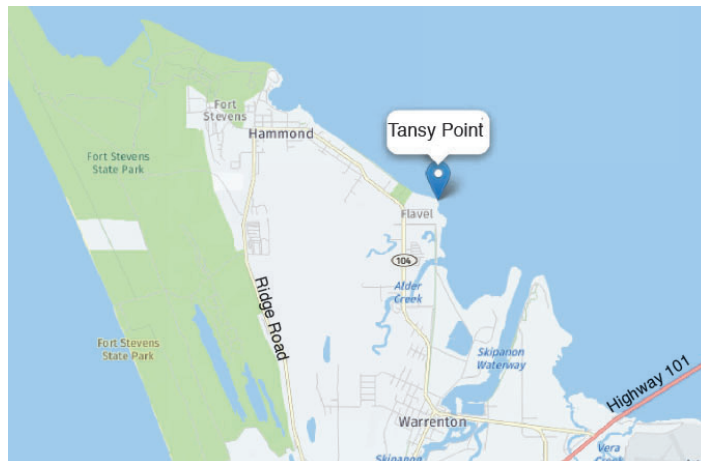
They plan to repair Tansy Creek and other damaged watershed and hold cultural meetings, camps and classes in basket weaving and more.

"We have to have good policies in place to protect the property," she said. "We're just at the beginning."

The first step, the kiosk, will go in by June.

The land was purchased in April from a family who has owned the property since the 1950s.

See 'Tansy Point' on Page 3



Port board is unified in approving new strategies

BY CINDY YINGST
The Columbia Press

Just two tiny fixes were required to amend the Port of Astoria's long-awaited Strategic Business Plan: Use the words "past" and "prior" when summarizing the body's discord.

"I have two small things," Commissioner Robert Stevens told the consultant who'd written the plan. Ensure the two sentences of the introduction that refer to board disagreements and public distrust are

in the past tense, he told her.

"There's no more rancor here," Stevens said.

The port's Board of Commissioners then unanimously approved the document Tuesday afternoon, all of them agreeing



Stevens

it portrayed the past accurately while laying out a realistic and optimistic plan for the future.

The Strategic Business Plan now moves on to Business Oregon, an arm of the state government. Failure to have a plan approved by the state caused the port to lose a \$1.54 million state grant it had won to repair infrastructure.

Melanie Olson of Business Oregon, who was in the audience, told commissioners it will be four to six weeks for the state to review the plan.

"I wanted to congratulate you on getting to this point," Astoria City Councilor Tom Brownson told the board. "This document establishes a foundation for moving forward and getting this port to be a working port, as it should be."

The past two years, and many of the years before then, have been a shipwreck for the Port of Astoria.

A mid-summer power struggle

See 'Port' on Page 4

Airport wins new grant for repairs

Astoria Regional Airport, along with John Day Airport in Grant County, have won a combined \$2 million in federal grants for critical infrastructure improvements.

"This grant funds the first phase of much needed rehabilitation of the airport apron," said Gary Kobes, Port of Astoria airport manager. "The original was constructed in the early 1940s and has served well, but is approaching the end of its useful life."

The apron is the portion of the airport where airplanes are parked, boarded, loaded, and refueled.

The Port of Astoria and local aviators obviously are pleased with the decision, Kobes added. The airport is regionally important to the North Coast.

"Regional airports play a critical role in connecting our communities with economic opportunities and critical resources," U.S. Sen. Jeff Merk-

See 'Airport' on Page 7