



First-day hikes: Setting out on the right path

The Columbia Press

Imagine starting the first day of the new year off on the right foot... your walking foot. Fresh air and healthy activities on Day One could set the stage for a new you in 2020.

But if that sounds too lofty, consider a "First Day Hike" at one of Oregon's state parks just for the fun of it. It's a step in the right direction.

Clatsop County's guided hike is at Fort Stevens, but other nearby First Day Hikes can be found in Nehalem and Tillamook.

Oregon Parks and Recreation has arranged for 37 hikes in 31 parks across the state. All will be guided by a park ranger or volunteer who will share stories about the park's history, geology, wildlife and plants.

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Above: The Octopus Tree on the Cape Meares hike.



Left: A ranger leads a guided hike at Tryon Creek State Park near Portland.



Right: A breathtaking vista at Oswald West State Park.

Courtesy Oregon State Parks

Stories of Russian meddling found in pages of old paper

By CINDY YINGST
The Columbia Press

A 1940 issue of an Astoria Finnish newspaper conveys somber news: "The Finnish parliament votes 45-3 to surrender southeastern territories to Russia. The Russia-Finnish war has displaced 565,000."

Achivist Liisa Penner of Clatsop County Historical Society received a donation last month of a small bundle of *Lännen Suometar* newspapers from the war years, 1939 to 1941, and is translating the headlines to get a better sense of events happening in Finland and Europe at the time.

"It's too reminiscent of what is happening now with Russia's attempts to destabilize the Ukraine and other countries around the globe," Penner said.

Her report on the Finns during the war years will be published in a future issue of *Cumtux*, the Historical Society's quarterly history publication.

Some people know that The Co-

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Big news for 2019 is Hammond Marina, Pacific Seafoods, downtown revitalization

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New development and new people filling key roles in local government were among the top stories in 2019.

Warrenton became the official owner of Hammond Marina.

The Port of Astoria, which has followed a rocky road during the past two decades, appears to be getting back on a more prosperous path.

Pacific Seafood, one of the Warrenton's largest employers, tackled the housing shortage head-on, winning approval to build a worker's dorm.

The revitalization of downtown War-

renton won awards as a grassroots citizen group attracted lots of people interested in helping.

Here is a month-by-month list of the region's top stories:

JANUARY

•Former Nirvana bassist Krist Novoselic and Life Flight Network are working on plans for separate hangars at Astoria-Warrenton Regional Airport.

•A grassroots group forms to work on positive changes in downtown Warrenton.

•City Commissioners approve a de-

velopment code amendment that allows Pacific Seafood to convert a metal fabrication building into dormitory-style housing to meet the needs of seasonal employees working at the processing plant.

•New Clatsop County District Attorney Ron Brown is sworn in.

•Lektro, one of Warrenton's largest employers, is sold to JBT Corporation.

FEBRUARY

•Bert and Debbie Little of Warrenton receive the Richard Ford Distinguished Service Award from the Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce.

•Officer Robert Wirt administers Narcan and revives a man overdosing on heroin. It was the first use of the overdose kits since the department started them in December 2017.

•Warrenton City Commissioners give preliminary approval to rezone the Spur 104 area.

MARCH

•Tom Rogozinski, principal at Warrenton Grade School since 2013, is named superintendent of the Warrenton-Hammond School District.

•The school board approves the pur-

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