

Schools President Debbie Morrow wins top chamber honors

Three winners named for Astoria's award



Debbie Morrow with her husband, Chris, and children Matthew, Jessica and Jake.

The Columbia Press

Debbie Morrow of Warrenton was given top honors Saturday at the annual meeting and banquet for Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce.

There were three recipients this year sharing the top honors in Astoria.

"I was completely surprised," Morrow said about receiving the Richard Ford Distinguished Service Award, a citizen-of-the-year commendation given to a Warrenton resident who goes above and beyond in making contributions to the community.

"This truly was the best-kept secret," she said. "It is such an honor. ... I'm still smiling. I love the work we do. I love knowing we are making a difference. Our community and our children are worth it."

The Ford Award was presented by Warrenton Mayor Henry Balensifer after the dinner at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds with 250 people in attendance.

"Our award winner this year could be singled out as the Warrenton-Hammond School District's biggest cheerleader," Balensifer said.

Morrow, who is executive officer of the Clatsop Association of Realtors, is an advocate of Warrenton's families and children. She is president of the school board and serves on the board of Warrenton-Hammond

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Taylor



Brownlie



Mike and Mary Davies

State talking about fixes at jammed-up intersection

BY CINDY YINGST
The Columbia Press

A hot spot for traffic jams and vehicle collisions is on state lawmakers' radar.

The intersection on Ensign Lane, where exits from both Wendy's and Home Depot send drivers onto the busy major commercial street, has been problematic for the city since the fast-food restaurant opened last spring.

Three proposals city lead-

ers looked at Tuesday night included variations on removing the median island or "pork chop," changing the striping, and adding signs and pavement arrows.

The cost of any improvements would be borne by the city.

Changing the intersection requires amending the city's Transportation System Plan (TSP), a 20-year blueprint for roads, which the state

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Crime calls drop ever so slightly

2019 stats show rise in arrests and disturbances

BY CINDY YINGST
The Columbia Press

Arrests and citations increased 21 percent last year in the city of Warrenton, but overall calls dipped slightly.

"We've had no drastic changes and even gone down in total calls for service," Police Chief Matt Workman

told city commissioners Tuesday night. "If you ask an officer, they'll say they don't believe it because we are very, very busy."

The department has been short-handed, with two patrol positions open much of the year. Overtime has averaged 200 hours per month, he said.

The city of Astoria has been tracking police calls involving homeless and transient

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