



### Virtual graduation 2020



Ian O'Brien

*The Columbia Press*  
For the Class of 2020, it was the best of times; it was the worst of times.

The Warrenton High School graduating class is filled with achievers released into an uncertain world.

On June 5, the 56 graduates participated in a drive-through live-streamed ceremony, the first in the school's 102-year history, but essential during a pandemic without a cure.

"This is a monumental moment."  
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Students make their way to the high school June 5. They are, clockwise from above: Kaisa Liljenwall, Malia Kapua, Kai Roughton and Austin Little.



Cindy Yingst

### City considers smoking ban in public parks

BY CINDY YINGST  
*The Columbia Press*

Warrenton may ban smoking in public parks and on walking trails.

The Parks Advisory Board and the City Commission discussed the issue at separate meetings this week after a post on Facebook raised concerns that a planned new park could become a gathering spot for smokers in the surrounding housing development.

The three-acre Forest Rim Park on Honeysuckle Loop would be small and unlikely to attract visitors from outside the neighborhood. It's slated for picnic tables, a barbecue pit and little else.

Unlike Astoria, Warrenton has no ordinance banning smoking in public parks or trails.

Community Development Director Kevin Cronin recommended the Parks Advisory Board take action against smoking.

"It's a public health threat and parks should be a place where people feel safe," Cronin said.

"I'm surprised that isn't already a thing," said Sara Long, the board's  
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