

Halloween haunts are everywhere

The Columbia Press

Halloween can be fun no matter on what day of the week it falls.

But since Halloween 2020 is on a Saturday, children and many adults can celebrate plenty without worrying about getting up for work or school the next morning.

Following are some of the best ways to celebrate fall and Halloween. Some are free, some are pricy and some can be done from the comfort of one's easy chair.

BATS, SPIDERS, OWLS

Fort Clatsop has converted its annual nighttime "Bats, Spiders, Owls, Oh My!" event into a multi-night virtual activity.

Already posted is an introduction by Ranger Esther. She explains the activity and shows those watching how to find bats, spiders and owls at the North Netul Landing shelter.

At 4 p.m. Oct. 30, Ranger Izzy will share stories about bats, spiders and owls. Visitors to the park also are urged to take photos along the park's trails and post them on Facebook or Instagram with the hashtag LCBSO.

To participate, visit the Facebook page for Lewis and Clark National Historical Park and click on one of the videos.

TALKING TOMBSTONES

The popular event hosted by the Clatsop County Historical Society won't be held this year, but if spooky "living" history is your thing, consider a drive to Naselle, Wash.

The Finnish-American Society hosts their town's version of Talking Tombstones. See 'Halloween' on Page 8

Study: Tidegate would provide minimal storm protection



Left: The Eighth Street Dam looking upstream with no tidegates.

Below, left: How a normal high tide affects property closest to the dam.

Below, right: The effects on property during a 100-year storm.

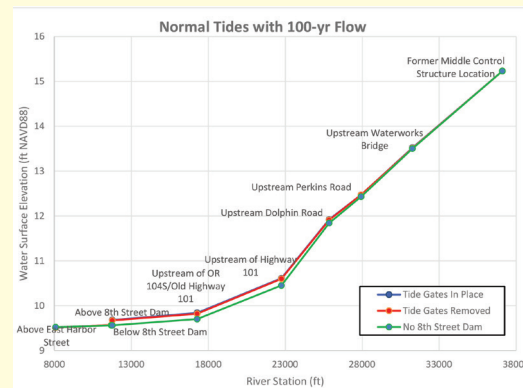
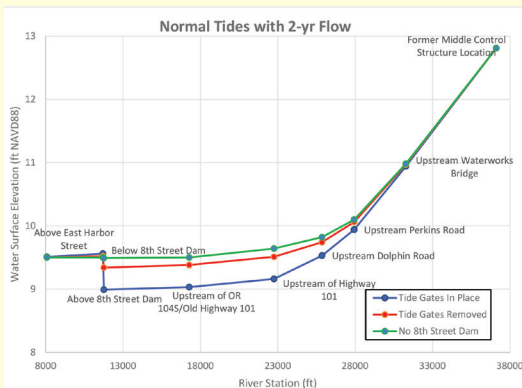
Photo and charts courtesy USACE

By CINDY YINGST
The Columbia Press

A return of tide gates to the Eighth Street Dam would provide little to no protection for land owners during a storm of epic proportions, according to a study recently completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

However, tide gates would protect properties closest to the dam in a typical storm during a normal year.

The Skipanon River Flood Study was completed earlier this year at the behest of city officials after much debate.



The Eighth Street Dam was built in the early 1960s by the U.S. Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation Service. That same year, The Skipanon Water Control District was formed and See 'Dam' on Page 4

See more on the Eighth Street Dam in Mayor Henry Balensifer's column on Page 7.

Conservancy receives swath of Warrenton wildland

The Columbia Press

A natural area in the middle of Warrenton will be preserved as part of a wildlife corridor.

Clatsop County transferred the Ninth Street Wetland to North Coast Land Conservancy on Oct. 19.

The 42-acre preserve is part of Alder Creek watershed, which runs along Sand Creek to the Columbia River. It's adjacent to two other properties already in the conservancy's hands: Sand Creek Wetlands and Gardenia Wetland.

"I think it's a great idea," Warrenton City Commissioner Rick Newton

said Wednesday. "For them to take vent flooding, according to NCLC.

it over, that makes perfect sense to me and I believe it would have been what my father wanted."

Much of the property had been in Newton's family and he donated it to the county instead of continuing to pay taxes on what he deemed as unbuildable land.

The additional land, which runs along both sides of Ninth Street near Warrenton Grade School, doubles the length of a protected wildlife corridor and will help pre-



Newton

"(It) helps preserve a wildlife corridor of more than a mile in the heart of Warrenton that is used by elk, small mammals, upland birds and invertebrates," the nonprofit group wrote in a press release. "Additionally, Ninth Street Wetland contains several hundred meters of frontage along Alder Creek, which is downstream of a property with rearing habitat for Lower Co-

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