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2020: A look at a year that will live in infamy

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came a political statement.

And then came the fires that ate through Oregon and other Western states, killing 11 Oregonians, burning a million acres and thousands of homes and businesses.

The November election was the cherry on the 2020 nightmare. Love him or hate him, will it take an army to remove Trump from the White House?

But turning our gaze to home base, here's a local look at the year that couldn't end soon enough.

JANUARY

•Local developer Jason Palmberg submits plans to the city of Warrenton for a large RV park on vacant land along the Skipanon River.

•The city is fined \$10,800 for a dozen safety and health violations within the fire department. Because of the city's quick response, fines are later reduced to \$4,100.

•Warrenton Middle School students build a Goonies-themed miniboat that was launched in the ocean, part of a joint learning program with students in Japan.

•More than 400 soldiers head to Kosovo after training at Camp Rilea. They are part of the largest deployment of troops since World War II.

•Debbie Morrow receives top honors at the annual Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce banquet for her community work as school board president, sports supporter, and co-organizer of Warrenton-Hammond Healthy Kids.

FEBRUARY

•Warrenton High School's new Career and Technical Education center is dedicated. It will serve those students seeking vocational training that doesn't require a college degree.

•Reconstruction of South



Courtesy J.E. McAmis Construction

Rock work is put in place at South Jetty, a \$140.7 million federal project in Fort Stevens State Park designed to protect the shipping channel.

Jetty, a \$140.7 million federal project, begins. Work will continue through 2024.

MARCH

•Warrenton city commissioners vote to stop approving new water connections outside city limits. The move is in response to studies showing impending inadequate water availability during summer months.

•Gov. Kate Brown issues executive orders in response to the threat of a novel coronavirus. Schools, restaurants and bars are closed.

•Warrenton gives tourists 24 hours to get out of town after hordes of people -- who've been implored to stay home -- flock to local beaches, campgrounds and hotels for spring break. Soon, most communities on the coast follow Warrenton's lead.

APRIL

•The governor orders schools to remain closed for the rest of the school year, devastating the spring sports program for student athletes and eliminating numerous opportunities for those in

band, chorus and other extracurricular activities.

•The state and Clatsop County receive pallets of personal protective equipment from the federal government. There have been 58 deaths in the state from COVID-19, all of them elderly. Clatsop County has had six positive cases so far.

•Alexander Jimenez, 34, dies a few hours after creating a disturbance downtown during which police use a Taser to subdue him.

MAY

•Land that once belonged to Native Americans at the north end of Seaside is returned to the Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes by the North Coast Land Conservancy.

•Voters elect John Toyooka of Gearhart and Courtney Bangs of Knappa to replace incumbents Sarah Nebeker and Kathleen Sullivan on the Clatsop County Commission.

JUNE

•The Warrenton High School Class of 2020 becomes the first to participate in drive-through graduation

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