

Business and development tidbits

NEW CARE PROVIDERS

Columbia Memorial Hospital has hired two new medical providers, one of whom will be based in Warrenton.



Cerutti



Powell

Kelly Cerutti, a family nurse practitioner, will be a provider at the CMH Primary Care Clinic. Michelle Powell, a family nurse practitioner, will split her time between urgent care clinics in Astoria, Seaside and Warrenton.

UPS CONTRACT

The Port of Astoria and UPS signed a five-year extension on the parcel delivery company's lease at Astoria Regional Airport.

The company is expanding its footprint at the airport by a third of an acre and will pay significantly more for rent, from about \$800 to \$2,831 per month.

UPS will continue using the 1.3-acre site as its distribution center and base of operations. The company is one of the airport's most frequent users, with a cargo plane leaving each weekday evening.

FOOD TRUCK

Warrenton Urban Renewal Agency voted unanimously this month to extend its agreement with owners of the Tres Bro's food truck.

The truck, which is parked most days in the gravel lot next to City Hall, sells Nicaraguan food. Owners Joshua and Yadira Colby will continue to pay \$200 per month, a drop of \$200 from the rental agreement due to economic hardship from the pandemic, City Manager Linda Engbretson said.

The month-to-month agreement runs through the end of

the year, although either party can terminate it by giving proper notice. And the city can return the rent to \$400 on July 1 if economic conditions improve.

U-HAUL RENTALS

C&S Builders now offers U-Haul trucks and trailers for rent.

The company, at 1015 S. Main Ave., is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. with 24-hour customer returns.

Other companies in the area that offer U-Haul services include Astoria Mini Storage and U-Haul Storage of the North Coast in Gearhart.

LIQUOR LICENSE

Warrenton City Commissioners unanimously approved a liquor license application for South Jetty Inn in Hammond.

Owners Andrea Darus and Charles Parker plan to sell beer, wine and hard cider in the motel lobby. The city must approve the application before it will be considered by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission.

CHURCH HALL PLANNED

Bethany Lutheran Church plans to construct a 5,000 square-foot fellowship hall and multi-use building adjacent to the church at 420 34th St., Astoria.

The city of Astoria's Historic Landmarks Commission held a hearing on the proposal Tuesday as the structure is adjacent to the historic Adair-Uppertown Historic Inventory Area.

The building, which would be painted the same color as the church, would have an indoor space to store the church van, a kitchen, bathrooms, showers and storage space.

Construction is expected to cost \$600,000, of which the congregation already has raised a third.

Singer-songwriter's kin lived locally

The Columbia Press

Everybody has a family story to tell.

Hilmar Lofgren and three brothers emigrated from Sweden to Deep River, Wash., and later, Astoria in the early part of last century; all of them became carpenters.

Lofgren and his wife, Freda, spent decades in Astoria and the brothers built many of the city's homes and other structures.

One of Hilmar's brothers, Adolph, eventually left for Chicago, where he married and became the father of one of rock music's legendary performers, Nils Lofgren.

Lofgren, 69, joined Neil Young's band when he was 18, touring the world and playing on Young's platinum "After the Gold Rush" album and "Tonight's the Night."

He released several solo albums in the '70s, '80s and '90s and joined Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band as a guitarist, playing in more than 150 shows worldwide on the Born in the USA tour.

He also played with Ringo Starr, Branford Marsalis, Cab Calloway, Willie Nelson, Jerry Lee Lewis, Patti Scialfa and Lou Reed. His music was featured in the HBO show, "The Sopranos."

In 2014, he released a 10-disc boxed set providing a retrospective of his work over five decades.

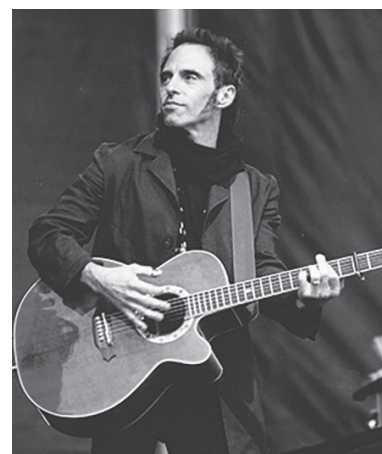
In 2016, the nation of Sweden recognized him for his contributions to music.

His most recent appearance was in December with Bruce Springsteen on Saturday Night Live.

It's stories like Lofgren's -- with their local links -- that get local historians excited.

Liisa Penner, retired archivist for the Clatsop County Historical Society, is working on a story about the Lofgrens for Cumtux, the society's quarterly publication.

Terry Arnall of Warrenton, historian for Astor Lodge 215 of the Vasa Order of America, a



Jan M. Lundahl

Guitarist Nils Lofgren

Swedish fraternal organization, is working with Penner.

Hilmar and Freda Lofgren, who were active in the lodge, left its members a \$10,000 legacy for a new building in the 1980s.

Arnall also is volunteering with the Warrenton Heritage Museum, which opened last year in the purple building across from City Hall.

"Maybe people in Warrenton have interesting stories in their family, too," Arnall said. "It's something people can do, like a pandemic puzzle."

What's your story?

If you have information or photos of the Lofgrens or are willing to share local stories about your family, please contact Terry Arnall at dougray12@gmail.com.

Eventually the group plans to give lectures on the history of the city and its people.

Arnall, 71, grew up in Hammond across the street from the Point Adams Coast Guard station -- now a fishery research center owned by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Her great-grandfather, Werner Storm, also lived in Hammond and worked in the local store.

"He had two brothers who worked on the jetty," Arnall said. "Edward Storm was killed on the jetty. Charles became blind from an explosion on the jetty. Poor health from the injuries caused his death."

Arnall's other great-grandfather worked as a cook on Tillamook rock, where the abandoned lighthouse is off the coast of Seaside.

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