

Celebrate! July 4, 2021

Fourth of July Parade

3 p.m. in Warrenton
S. Main Ave from SW 1st to 9th

Fireworks Display

10 p.m. in Astoria
Look to the sky over the
Columbia River near downtown

With COVID safety in mind,
we are asking for everyone's
help to keep crowding to a
minimum during this holiday
weekend.

Please be courteous to those
around you, and pack out
what you bring in, like food
containers, personal
fireworks & other garbage.



Thanks for making the 4th of July a blast!

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Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce
www.olderogon.com (503) 325-6311

County wants to evaluate health equity

The public is invited to review and provide comments on a draft study examining health equity in Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook counties.

The counties want to evaluate access to health, identify factors that contribute to differences in health, and to plan how to address those differences.

The study project was initiated

in 2019.

As the study's lead agency, Clatsop County hired The Rede Group to collect data through surveys, interviews and other sources and assemble a draft plan. The study includes an analysis of the local response to the pandemic.

To view the full study or give feedback, go to co.clatsop.or.us

and click on "Health Equity Plan" under "What's New."

Four hourlong online public forums are scheduled. The first is 6 p.m. July 6. Others are 11 a.m. July 15, 6 p.m. July 22 (facilitated in Spanish), and noon July 28.

To attend one of the forums, contact briana.arnold@rede-group.co.

RVs: City wrestles with their use as residences

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It becomes an issue when people tie into water, sewer and electrical lines without benefit of inspection -- a potential health and safety problem -- and without paying fees for the connection or even the utility provided, which isn't fair to other ratepayers.

Since RVs were not intended to be full-time residences, they are more susceptible to fire and abandonment -- leaving the problem for others to clean up. The city recently had to pay to remove two RVs and a boat that had been abandoned on public property.

"As far as people blatantly living in their motorhome for years, they're paying no property taxes or sewer fees and we need to look at that," Commissioner Gerald Poe said. "If you have a couple hundred



Warrenton Police Department

A sign on this RV in the Home Depot parking lot says it's disabled and the owner will retrieve it soon, yet the vehicle has moved from parking lot to parking lot with the same note.

people out there using the sewer without paying, we're losing."

Yet state legislation seems to be headed in another direc-

tion, Workman said, as some argue RVs provide a solution for those on the verge of homelessness.

House Bill 3115, for instance, was signed into law June 23 and makes it legal for people to loiter on public sidewalks and in public places if they have nowhere else to go.

"I think it was very unnecessary for the state to do that," Mayor Henry Balensifer said. "The state now has enabled it."

All commissioners agreed the city needs to tighten up its ordinances dealing with recreational vehicles, particularly whether they should be allowed as permanent dwellings. They asked to have the issue placed on their July 13 agenda.

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