

## Hello, goodbye to members of police force

The Columbia Press

Warrenton Police Department welcomed a new recruit into the fold Tuesday night and said goodbye to its drug-sniffing dog, Gabe.

Christina Trujillo, hired May 24, has never worked as a police officer before.

She grew up in Clatsop County, graduated from Astoria High School in 2011 and graduated from Portland State University in 2018 with a bachelor's degree in criminology and criminal justice.

She worked previously at Washington State Youth Authority's Naselle Youth Camp, Ross Dress for Less and Hammond Kennels.

Trujillo was set to join the police department as a reserve officer when another member of the force resigned and she was given the full-time position, Chief Matt

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Officer Christina Trujillo smiles after her father, Luis, pins on her badge during her Oath of Office ceremony Tuesday night.

Police Chief Matt Workman leads the retirement ceremony for K-9 officer Gabe, shown here with his handler, Officer Robert Wirt. **Below, right:** Gabe enjoys a special cake made just for him.

Cindy Yingst  
The Columbia Press



## Mayor plans to seek city manager post

By CINDY YINGST

The Columbia Press

Mayor Henry Balensifer would like to be Warrenton's next city manager.

He made the announcement at Tuesday night's city commission meeting during a discussion about finding a replacement for City Manager Linda Engbretson. Engbretson plans to retire later this year.

"I intend to put my name in for that," he told fellow commissioners and then stepped back from the conversation about how the recruitment process would be handled.

The four remaining commissioners agreed the city will hire a headhunter or professional services agency that will help them figure out how the process should go and develop criteria for a new manager, such as whether that person needs to have a strong background in finance, urban renewal or planning.

They'll organize a vetting process that allows the public to get involved in the process.

"It's something we don't do every day and I want to get it right," Commissioner Tom Dyer said.

"We need to have a professional selection, clean," added Commissioner Rick Newton. "I don't want to be a Podunk town. I want to do this professionally."

Both Dyer and Commissioner Mark Baldwin said they'd like Engbretson to be involved in the recruitment process because of her vast experience. She spent 26 years as a city employee, the last six as city manager. She worked under six different city managers while serving as Warrenton's city recorder.

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## Author examines early lives of Clatsop, other tribes

By CINDY YINGST

The Columbia Press

A few good things have come out of the pandemic and Brian Ratty's new book is one of them.

"Broken Arrow: History, Myths & Legends" will be released Wednesday.

"About this time a year ago, our homes and towns were locked down because of the coronavirus," Ratty said. "Ahead of us were months of unpredictability, quarantines and a fear of an invisible virus that ran through

our population like a winter storm. Against this backdrop of uncertainty, I started a new book project. I called this endeavor my 'covid book.'"

His "covid book" delves into local native American tribes – the Chinook, Clatsop, Nehalem and Tillamook – and tells the story of what their lives were like before the arrival of European settlers. It helps answer the questions of where the Pacific Coast's tribes



Brian Ratty

came from and where they went.

Broken Arrow, he says, "is a story worth telling, in the many voices of the different people who lived during those turbulent times."

The book recounts their dreams, mythology, lifestyles, and survival methods in a land of plenty.

Ratty, who lives in Warrenton, is a retired film/video production com-