

Warrenton hires new planning director

The Columbia Press

The city of Warrenton has a new planning director.

Scott Hazelton, 25, of Deer Lodge, Mont., begins his new job Sept. 1.

"I love the coast and I'm excited to get back," said Hazelton, who'd been planning director and floodplain administrator for Powell County, Mont. "I primarily have done county work and county-level planning in the past and it's exciting to see things from a city-level perspective."

Hazelton graduated from Kansas State University with a master's degree in regional community planning, a graduate certificate in graphic information systems and a minor in business administration.

He worked in the planning department in Curry County on the south Oregon Coast and as a transportation plan-



Hazelton

ner for Alliance Transportation Group in Lake Charles, La. He started as a student intern with Powell County before being hired as planning director there in December 2020.

"Scott's experience will fit well with our goals and focus on responsible development and livability," Warrenton City Manager Linda Engbretson said. "He is experienced in flood mitigation projects and is a certified floodplain manager. I am looking forward to Scott's arrival and adding his enthusiasm and experience to our team."

Hazelton will bring his girlfriend, Rebekah Blinn, and three dogs with him, staying in an Air B&B for the first month while they seek more permanent housing. Blinn will work with special-needs students in the Warrenton-Hammond School District.

County places moratorium on new vacation rental applications

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A moratorium on new short-term rentals in county-governed areas goes into effect Sept. 1.

County commissioners unanimously approved the moratorium following a second and final public hearing Wednesday night.

The moratorium doesn't affect short-term rentals or applications for short-term rentals in any of the incorporated cities or their urban growth boundaries, with the exception of Gearhart's.

The county took the action to give it time to work on a permanent ordinance covering the vacation rentals.

There have been complaints about unruly guests in some areas, plus a shortage of affordable housing available within the county.

The initial moratorium will be in effect through Dec. 29, although the date can be extended.

Any application submitted before the commission's action on Wednesday is exempt from the moratorium.

History in the Making

A look at Warrenton's top stories from The Columbia Press annals



Crabfest to move from Hammond Marina

**AUGUST 2011
10 YEARS AGO**

- The 1980 football team, plus athletes Jim Corkill, Gary Jensen, DeeAnn McCoy, and Jack Burkhart, are inducted into the Warrenton High School Hall of Fame.

- The Clatsop County Assessment and Taxation Department has begun inspecting residential, farm, and business properties as part of the first comprehensive reappraisal in the county in decades.

**AUGUST 2001
20 YEARS AGO**

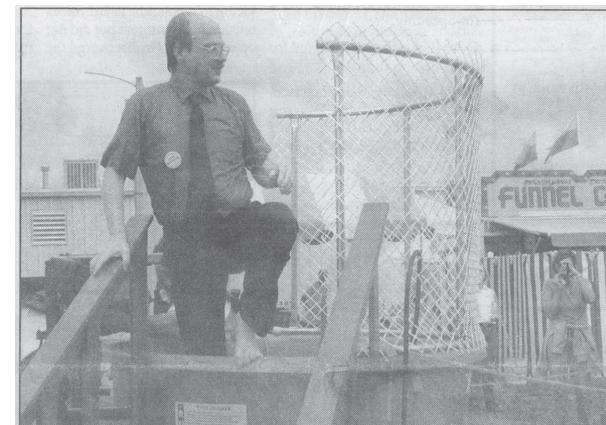
- Warrenton city commissioners approve a request from Ocean Crest Motors to vacate a portion of 12th Street at Alternate Highway 101 to make way for the dealership's relocation from Astoria to Warrenton.

- Telephone company Qwest files suit in Portland to stop the payment of franchise fees within the state of Oregon. The company pays \$70,000 annually to the city of Warrenton.

- Water customers will see their water bills more than double after commissioners approve a \$2.65 million loan to complete the new water filtration plant. The city already had borrowed \$5.5 million, bringing the total indebted-

County Commissioner Tim Gannaway took numerous dunkings at the Clatsop County Fair. People paid \$1 per try, with proceeds benefiting 4-H.

File photo
Aug. 10, 2001



ness/debt to \$8.2 million.

- 2001 Warrenton High School graduate Jarrod Thebiay is killed in a traffic accident near South Bend, Wash.

- The long-awaited purchase of the city's Public Works yard for a new Warrenton Post Office remains in limbo over concerns about possible petroleum contamination at the site.

- The annual Crab and Seafood Festival will move from Hammond Marina to the Clatsop County Fairgrounds after a 6-4 vote by the Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce board.

**AUGUST 1996
25 YEARS AGO**

- Warrenton Police Chief Dan Kneale resigns after five years with the department to accept a job as police chief for the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

- Gillian Maggert is hired as part-time site manager for Warrenton Community Library. She'll be paid for 10 hours per week.

**AUGUST 1991
30 YEARS AGO**

- The school board approves a \$34,350 bid from G.M. Solum Contracting to replace the high school gymnasium roof and hires Lennie Wolfe as an English teacher and coach.

- Developers propose a 217,000-square-foot factory outlet center on 20 acres across Highway 101 from Fred Meyer.

Plans for similar centers have been proposed in Gearhart and Seaside. "The one with the best plan that can best serve the area is the one that will succeed," said John Donaldson of Capital Development Co.

Free obituaries in The Columbia Press

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These free obituaries are 7 to 12 inches long and include a photo. We'll do the writing for you.

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