

Problems in Planning

City struggles to get, keep planning staff

BY CINDY YINGST
The Columbia Press

Warrenton is having trouble getting Planning Department directors to stay.

In the past five years, the city has had six planners and interim city planners.

Planning Director Scott Hazelton recently announced his resignation. He has been with the city less than five months.

“I find it extremely difficult having rotating planning directors or none at all,” said Lylla Gaebel, who has served as a planning commissioner for two years. “I never know where someone is going to be coming from, and it leaves planning commissioners acting on their own a lot and going on what their history is rather than having direction.”

Hazelton was preceded by Will Caplinger, a former Clatsop County planning manager. Caplinger, who now lives in Taiwan, worked for the city on an interim basis.

Scott Hess, the city’s last planning director, stayed with the city just six months before leaving.

Hess had been preceded by interim



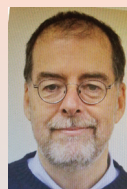
Hazelton



Caplinger



Hess



Barnes



Cronin



Urling



Warrenton has had problems keeping its Planning Department staffed. The department oversees building and development in the city.

director Mark Barnes, who’d retired as planning director of the city of Cannon Beach.

Before Barnes was Kevin Cronin, who served as community development director for two years before taking a job with the city of Mount Angel.

Skip Urling, whom Cronin replaced, retired in March 2018 after

five years with the city.

“We’ve had some really, really talented people come through” Gaebel said. “I’m really sorry to lose this latest (director); he seemed to really be on board.”

Hazelton has been living at the Motel 6 because he couldn’t find permanent housing, he said. His support
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Drive and dreams bring honor for Warrenton student

The Columbia Press

Warrenton High School senior Alejandra Lopez Nestor will represent the state of Oregon in this year’s United States Senate Youth Program.

Alejandra and Caroline Xingyan Gao of Albany were selected from among the state’s top student leaders to be part of the 104 students who make up the national student delegation.

The two will join U.S. Sens. Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley in representing Oregon during the 60th annual U.S. Senate Youth Program’s Washington Week, to be held March 6-9. They’ll also receive \$10,000 college scholarships.

“I was very surprised to hear that I had won since I thought being one of two people in the entire state chosen for the United States Senate Youth Program was unimaginable,” she said.

Alejandra grew up the child of immigrant

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Alejandra Lopez Nestor

Setup for supply shortages in place long before the pandemic, economist says

BY EMILY HALNON
University of Oregon

There has been a lot of talk about problems with the supply chain during the pandemic.

But factors for the logjam were in place well before COVID-19 hit, according to University of Oregon economist Keaton Miller.

Problems started back in the ‘80s, when final-goods manufacturers adopted a “just in time” approach to storing inventory on site, Miller said. Companies like Toyota decided it wasn’t a smart business move to have warehouses full of parts well before they were needed for the final build of the car. They didn’t want to pay to store excess car doors or windshield wipers when they could instead streamline their production with more ef-

ficient timing of supply deliveries.

This operational strategy triggered a shift toward more specialization and efficiency in the supply chain, where every link of the chain got more precise. But while businesses may have experienced cost savings from enhanced efficiency, it also increased the fragility of the system.

“Essentially, this created multiple points of failure,” Miller said. “The supply chain became more susceptible to breaking down due to a disruption.”

Two such disruptions were the tariffs imposed on China during the Trump administration and the coronavirus.

“The pandemic hit and screwed everything up on both the supply side and the demand side, for certain goods,” Miller said.

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Courtesy University of Oregon

Shelves in one big box store were completely decimated as supply chain issues affect food sales.