

# Project: Planning Commission will continue deliberation at October meeting

Continued from Page A1

Three planning commissioners — Kathy Kleczek, Seth Morrissey and Lou Neubecker — recused themselves because they have properties affected by the outcome of the development.

“This is not a true plan for a development,” Kleczek said. “It’s a plan for a clearing. What will happen once those trees are cleared is frightening. We only have to look so far as Astoria to see what can happen when land is cleared and left to sit with Band-Aid measures taken.”

“Considering the amount of water in the drought that we’re in, it only takes a big rainstorm to wash all that dirt away.”

Judy Madsen, a resident, said there has been a huge water problem ever since she and her husband moved to the Sunset Hills area in 1983.

In a wet winter, Madsen said, she and her husband pumped 2,000 gallons of water in a 24-hour period off their lot. “It’s just loaded with springs everywhere up there,” she said.

The whole area is “completely full of water when



Su Coddington, who serves on the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District Board, was among the residents who spoke at the Planning Commission with concerns about the Vista Ridge project.

it’s in the wintertime,” Merilee Laurens, a resident, said. “The water just rushes down the street.”

Natural springs pour down the street in the middle of springtime due to other construction projects, Greg Boat, a homeowner, said. “Basically, we live on a rock that has clay on top

of it,” he said. “I don’t see how taking all of this foliage off of the side of the hill and then putting houses on there with an area that already has drainage issues is a smart or safe idea.”

Neighbors Lief and Sani Morin say portions of the site may be considered wetlands.

“The parcel flows into the wetlands below, which then flow into the Neawanna estuary, the Necanicum River, where both chum and coho salmon thrive,” the Morins wrote in a letter to the Planning Commission.

The impact of construction traffic, the need for additional signage, side-

walks and the lack of access routes for emergency vehicles to the site also concerned residents.

Su Coddington, who lives in the Sunset Hills neighborhood, shared concerns that the area also serves as a gathering place in the event of a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake and

tsunami. “I am concerned that when this earthquake comes — we’re not talking about a size seven, we’re talking about an eight or a nine — that land in this proposed development will slide and it will take the rest of us with it,” said Coddington, who leads the city’s Community Emergency Response Team and serves on the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District Board. “And our assembly area will no longer be of value to the residents that can get to our assembly area safely.”

In his geotechnical and geohazard report, Mead acknowledged a large earthquake in the magnitude of 6.0 or more could trigger old deep-seated slides in this area.

As mitigation, exposed soil areas would be covered with straw and seeded, and steep slopes along the eastern boundary of the site that go down to the creek bed would not be built upon, Mead said in the report. Rain drains would be constructed away from foundations.

The Planning Commission will continue deliberation at a meeting in early October.

## PUBLIC SAFETY LOG

Continued from Page A2

### Driving under influence

Jennifer Leann Lawler, 48 from Seaside, was arrested Sept. 5 at 8:53 a.m. after she was stopped by troopers at the junction of U.S. Highways 101 and 26. Police observed multiple lane violations and arrested her for driving while under the influence of intoxicants. No alcohol was involved and a drug recognition expert evaluated the driver. Her Toyota was secured on scene and Lawler was transported to Seaside Providence Hospital after the booking process by another party.

### Aug. 1

**1:13 a.m.**, emergency medical service, Old Bog, Warrenton.



**5:00 a.m.**, motor vehicle accident with injuries, U.S. Highway 101, milepost 14, Warrenton.

**8:11 a.m.**, detector activation, no fire, unintentional, Neacoxie.

### Aug. 2

**8:11 a.m.**, Public service assistance, 10th Street.

**3:26 p.m.**, emergency medical service, U.S. Highway 101.

### Aug. 3

**1:33 a.m.**, emergency medical service, U.S. Highway 101.

**12:08 p.m.**, emergency medi-

## Task Force 49



Clatsop County Task Force 49 left last Wednesday afternoon to Lakeview to fight the Cougar Peak fire.

cal service, East Kershul.

**4:15 p.m.**, alarm system sounded due to malfunction, North Marion.

**5:12 p.m.**, motor vehicle/pedestrian accident, U.S. Highway 101 and Hillilla.

**6:01 p.m.**, emergency medical service, U.S. Highway 101, Warrenton.

**7:38 p.m.**, gas leak, Manion, Surf Pines.

### Aug. 4

**12:24 a.m.**, emergency medical service, U.S. Highway 101.

**3:07 a.m.**, emergency medical service, Neacoxie, Surf Pines.

**9 a.m.**, public service assistance, Lewis and Clark, Seaside.

**10:57 p.m.**, emergency medical service, Neacoxie, Surf Pines.

### Aug. 5

**6:12 a.m.**, building fire, Knappa.

**3:07 p.m.**, emergency medical service, Manion, Surf Pines.

### Aug. 6

**11 a.m.**, alarm system sounded due to malfunction, North Marion.

**2:43 p.m.**, alarm system sounded due to malfunction, North Marion.

**2:45 p.m.**, alarm system sounded due to malfunction, North Marion.

### Aug. 7

**3:23 p.m.**, emergency medical service, East Kershul.



## CLATSOP CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) RAFFLE BENEFIT A SUCCESS

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) are ordinary people doing extraordinary things. They volunteer their time to advocate for the best interests of children who have suffered neglect or abuse and are now in foster care. The Clatsop CASA Program currently supports 40 volunteers who give of themselves to improve the lives of children.

We fundraise money for advocacy services for children and youth in foster care. Clatsop CASA

- Allure Spa & Wellness
- Arnie’s Café
- A-Town Coffee
- Bridgewater Bistro
- Cannery Pier Hotel & Spa
- Chocolate Café
- Columbia River Maritime Museum
- Forager’s
- Fort George Brewery
- Kit’s Apothecary
- Mo’s Seafood And Chowder

Program relies on community support to recruit, train, and supervise volunteers. We could not do this important work without the support of our community, generous sponsors, donors, and volunteers! Thanks to you all, the CASA raffle was a success!

The following businesses gave of their time, services, and support. Thank you for believing in our mission and in our community!

- Nw Style Loft
- Ocd Performance DbA Seaside Muffler & Offroad
- Pacific Nw Automotive
- Riki Leona Brows
- Salon Boheme
- Seaside Aquarium
- Seaside Carousel Mall
- Trails End Recovery
- Umbrella Engraving
- Vegabond 3-d Innovation Lab
- Worker’s Tavern