

CHINOOK OBSERVER



More than 100 protesters marched peacefully from Raymond to South Bend in support of BLM on Friday, June 12.
LUKE WHITTAKER

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Pacific County joins national protests

Protest in support of Black lives draws more than 100 people



James A. Phillips

By ASHLEY NERBOVIG
Chinook Observer

RAYMOND — With an oxygen tank slung over his shoulder and a protest sign in hand, 64-year-old James A. Phillips walked almost five miles to show his support

for the Black Lives Matter movement.

Phillips was one of more than 100 Pacific County residents who marched silently together on Friday, June 12 through the cities of Raymond and South Bend. The march was organized in response to

a call from Black Lives Matter Seattle-King County, which asked for a statewide day of action in support of Black lives. BLM listed 39 planned protests across Washington.

A five-mile protest

The march began at Wil-

lapa Landing Park, at Eighth Street and Franklin Street in Raymond, and ended more than five miles away at the Pacific County Courthouse, 300 Memorial Drive, South Bend. About halfway through the march Phillips grew short of breath. He brought out his electric scooter to ride the rest of the way. When its battery died, he accepted a ride home.

Despite the risk to his health, Phillips said he went to the protest because what happened to George Floyd has been happening in this country for far too long. Floyd, an African American man, was killed by police while being arrested on May 25 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

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Pacific County OK'd for phase 3

Theaters, libraries, museums can soon reopen

By ASHLEY NERBOVIG
Chinook Observer

OLYMPIA — Gatherings of up to 50 people and non-essential travel is once again allowed in Pacific County after it was approved to move to phase three of Gov. Jay Inslee's Safe Start Plan.

The announcement came from Washington state Health Secretary John Wiesman on Tuesday, June 16. Pacific County Board of Commissioners voted to apply for the variance on Saturday, June 13 in a special board meeting.

Long Beach City Mayor Jerry Phillips said he was glad about reduced restrictions for the county. He said the city, county and state parks are working together on a plan for the three-day July 4 weekend, when a significant upsurge in visitors is likely.

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After spiking, meat prices ease off

By BRANDON CLINE
Chinook Observer

LONG BEACH PENINSULA — Just as restaurants on the peninsula were given the greenlight to open their doors for sit-down service, a new type of epidemic struck the dining community: an unstable meat supply.

With the covid-19 pandemic forcing restaurants to close, either temporarily or permanently in some cases, and outbreaks hitting large meat-processing plants throughout the country, restaurateurs saw the price of meats considered staples of the American diet — such as beef, pork and chicken — soar.

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Left to right: Harshil Thiry, Daniel Whiting, Melissa Merino Ortiz, Daysi Gonzales Sebastian, Marissa Thompson and Calvin Baze pose for a picture during the graduation parade.



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IHS graduate Bryan Sparks reacts during graduation parade on Saturday, June 13 at Ilwaco High School. Sparks plans to attend Eastern Washington University.

VIRTUAL GRADUATION CAPS UNIQUE SCHOOL YEAR

By BRANDON CLINE
Chinook Observer

LONG BEACH PENINSULA — For the Ocean Beach School District Class of 2020, born in the wake of 9/11 and graduating amidst a global pandemic and social and economic turmoil, last weekend's unprecedented graduation ceremony felt almost like normal — just another notch in the belt of a childhood that's

been anything but typical.

On Saturday, June 13, 82 students from Ilwaco High School and Ocean Beach Alternative School graduated from the Ocean Beach School District in the district's first — and hopefully only — virtual ceremony. Before that, hundreds of people participated in a reverse graduation parade at the high school on Saturday afternoon.

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After 46 years, Cottage Bakery changes hands



CONTRIBUTED BY JEFF HARRELL

Mason, Casey and Dylan Harrell at the Cottage Bakery last June. Jeff and Casey Harrell, along with Mark and Lindy Swain, officially purchased the bakery on June 10 and plan to incorporate some special things into the bakery to honor Dylan, who passed away in April.

By BRANDON CLINE
Chinook Observer

LONG BEACH — After nearly 50 years, a preeminent Long Beach Peninsula institution is changing hands.

On June 10, Bob and Judi Andrew officially turned the keys of the Cottage Bakery over to its new owners, Jeff and Casey Harrell and Mark and Lindy Swain, Casey's sister and brother-in-law. The sale comes about 46 years after the Andrews bought the bakery in 1974.

The sale had been in the works for more than a month, and came after staff shortages forced the bakery to close for a day on April 21, and then again from April 30 through May 6. The staffing issues, coupled with the

challenges presented by the covid-19 pandemic, made it the right time for a change to be made.

An emotional purchase

Jeff Harrell, president of Peninsula Pharmacies, said he and his wife weren't actively looking to purchase the bakery, but things moved quickly when he struck up a conversation with Judi after the Andrews sent faxes to local business owners inquiring if they'd be interested in taking it over. Harrell thought about how much the bakery — which has been in operation since 1908 — means to the community, and the way the community rallied around his family over the past two years.

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LUKE WHITTAKER

More than 100 protesters marched peacefully from Raymond to South Bend in support of BLM on Friday, June 12.

Protests

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Phillips' eyes filled with tears as he talked about watching the video of Floyd's death.

"That man didn't deserve to die," Phillips said. "And it doesn't always happen in the open."

Essential worker Ariel Leigh, 28, said she would have liked to go up for the protests in Seattle, but couldn't because of her job. She wanted the local community to know those marching were there for positive change.

"For all lives to matter, Black lives have to matter," Leigh said. "If all lives matter, people who say that should be just as mad."

Racism still exists, it's still here and it's a problem, Leigh said. These past two weeks have made a lot of people pay attention to that, she said. The ones who are still silent are the ones to be worried about.

People of all ages attended the march. Sporting green hair and a floral face mask, 16-year-old Cynthia Carter held a sign that read "Silence is Compliance." She went to the protest despite her father's worries about covid-19.

"I've seen a lot of racism around here," Carter said. "The world needs to change, even small towns like this."

Liz Denny, 37, was with her 2-year-old daughter Marina Medina and 64-year-old mother, Jan Davis. Denny and Davis are both members of Wilapa Bay Resistance. Davis

has wanted to attend a protest since they began breaking out across the country after the video of Floyd's death, she said.

Police presence

Officers with the South Bend and Raymond police departments as well as deputies from the Pacific County Sheriff's Office helped facilitate the protest by stopping traffic when the group needed to cross the highway. Raymond Police Chief Chuck Spoor said the law enforcement presence was meant to keep people safe. While he didn't want to comment on what happened to Floyd, Spoor said any death in police custody is "a bad situation."

Washington is a leader in the guardian policing model, Spoor said. All of his officers are trained in things such as implicit bias, and he doesn't see his officers use force very often.

"We try to get the right people in the job," Spoor said.

Pacific County Sheriff Robin Souvenir said what happened to Floyd was an extremely sad situation and one that would be talked about in deadly force training with his deputies. He understands the concerns and the controversies related to police brutality, he said. But it is important not to paint all departments with the same brush.

Given the size of the Pacific County community, many of his deputies aren't just part of law enforcement; they're teachers, churchgoers, mentors and coaches, he said.

"I really truly appreciate that our community is so small that we as law enforcement can't treat people badly," Souvenir said.



ASHLEY NERBOVIG

More than 100 Pacific County residents gathered on the steps of the Pacific County Courthouse after a more than five mile silent march on Friday, June 12. The march was organized in response to a call from Black Lives Matter Seattle-King County, which asked for a statewide day of action in support of Black lives.

'PEOPLE WANT TO ACT. IT'S TIME TO END COMPLACENCY.'

Chris

one of the coordinators of the march

only his first name, Chris. Chris was moved by the number of people who came out to the protest. He wasn't sure what to expect, he said. It is a good start and the motivation to change 400 years of racism is growing, he said.

Closing remarks

The march was organized through a community effort said one of the coordinators at the protest, who asked to be identified by

"People want to act," Chris said. "It's time to end complacency."



ASHLEY NERBOVIG

James A. Phillips, 64, chooses which sign he will carry for the more than five mile march through the cities of Raymond and South Bend. Phillips was one of more than 100 Pacific County residents who marched silently together on Friday, June 12.

Fourth Asian giant hornet found in Washington

By DON JENKINS
Capital Press

A fourth Asian giant hornet has been found in northwest Washington, expanding the area the giant wasp has been found in Whatcom County.

A wiggling queen hornet was stepped on by a Bellingham resident, who reported the find June 6 to the state Department of Agriculture. The USDA confirmed June 11 it was an Asian giant hornet.

The hornet was found about 15 miles from where one was discovered May 27 and about 20 miles from where two were seen in December.

"We think they are really strong flyers and this could confirm that," state agri-



The USDA confirmed June 11 the fourth Asian giant hornet detected in the U.S. All have been found in Whatcom County in northwest Washington.

culture department spokeswoman Karla Salp said Friday. "It's sad to see it has gone that far, but it's not unexpected."

The two Asian giant hornets found in December were the first U.S. detections ever.

The hornet has also been found across the border in British Columbia.

On June 13, Pacific County resident David Osborn reported via Facebook that he found what he tentatively identified as an Asian giant hornet in his yard off 302nd and X Place. However, as of June 16, there was no confirmation from the state agriculture department that what he found was in fact the new invasive species.

The hornets found near Blaine originated from South Korea, according to a DNA analysis. Hornets analyzed in Canada originated from Japan, suggesting separate introductions.

The hornets are deadly to honey bees. The state agriculture department will hang hundreds of traps in What-

com County this summer in hopes of learning whether the hornets are becoming established and a threat to pollinators.

As of Friday, the agriculture department had received 1,978 reports online from people who suspect they have found an Asian giant hornet. Reports are coming in from all over the country, even though the hornet has not been found in the U.S. outside Whatcom County.

So far, the department has concluded 758 reports were false alarms. In more than 1,000 cases, the report did not have enough information to make a determination.

The holes in standard wasp traps are too small for Asian giant hornets, so the department is making traps by cutting holes in plastic bottles

and baiting them with orange juice and rice wine. The alcohol is intended to discourage bees from being lured in.

The department has posted online trap-making instructions. More than 350 people have reported hanging traps. Most are in northwest Washington, though a few traps are scattered throughout the state.

No one has reported catching a giant hornet. The department won't start trapping until July when worker hornets become active, Salp said.

Eradicating a nascent giant hornet population would be a technical challenge. It could involve tagging individual worker hornets with tracking devices and following them back to their ground nests, Salp said.

Scientists at the Univer-

sity of Exeter in England in 2018 reported tying tiny electronic radio tags on hornets with sewing thread. The hornets could carry the tags back to the nest if the tracking devices weighed less than 80% of their body weight, the scientists reported.

Washington and other Western states have successfully eradicated Asian and European gypsy moths by aerial spraying. That approach for the giant hornet would also kill bees, Salp said.

The agriculture department remains concerned that people in their zeal to stop the giant hornet from becoming established will inadvertently kill pollinators, Salp said. The department has discouraged people outside Washington from setting out traps.