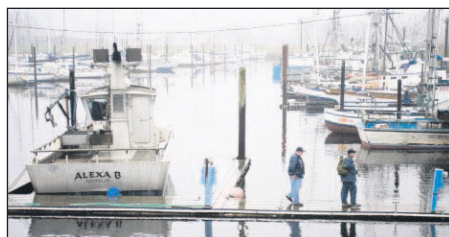


Perfect and getting better

SPORTS • 4A



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ONE DOLLAR

State warns LNG project could disrupt fishing

By DERRICK DePLEDGE
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Warning of a potentially substantial disruption, the state Department of Fish and Wildlife has recommended that Oregon LNG perform a thorough analysis of the impact of its proposed terminal on commercial and recreational fishing in the Columbia River.

The department, in comments on the project in January to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, found that Oregon LNG has not sufficiently characterized the local importance of fishing and the possible disruption during the construction and operation of a liquefied natural gas export terminal on 96 acres along the Skipanon Peninsula.

The project could interfere with

access to the Skipanon Marina, popular recreational chinook and coho salmon fishing at the mouth of the Skipanon River known as Buoy 10 and recreational crabbing in the estuary near the proposed terminal's berthing dock and outside the mouth of Youngs Bay.

The department suggests that Oregon LNG "avoid unreasonably interfering, now or in the future, with

recreational angling, commercial fishing and shellfishing activities in the Columbia River or any of the other waterways associated with the project."

The department recommended that Oregon LNG complete a thorough analysis of the potential impact of the terminal, including how safety and security zones around LNG tankers might hinder access. Oregon

LNG, the department maintains, "should then identify the steps and actions that will be taken to account for the loss of these recreational and commercial opportunities."

Oregon LNG did not respond to telephone and email messages seeking comment on the state's concerns about fishing.

See LNG, Page 9A

SEASIDE HITS THE DANCE FLOOR

Seaside Jazz

Festival can't be beat

BY ANDREW TONRY
For EO Media Group

SEASIDE — The Seaside Jazz Festival is becoming one of the longer-running events in the city's history.

Originally dubbed the Oregon Dixieland Jubilee, it's 32 years old and draws nearly 2,000 attendees each February.

Most of those — about 98 percent — are from outside the North Coast, and at least 80 percent are repeat customers, say the festival's coordinators, Ruth Johnson and Judy Shook.

"There's quite a friendly group that just meet up at jazz festivals and share what's hap-



Those attending the Seaside Jazz Festival in 2014 dressed up in their jazziest outfits and danced the days — and nights — away.

Photos by NANCY MCCARTHY
The Daily Astorian

pened to them in the last year," Johnson said.

A sense of return and reunion permeates performers this year as well. Of the 12 groups scheduled for this year's festival Feb. 19 through 22, 11 have played the festival in years past.

The lone newcomer to the Seaside Jazz Festival is Portland's Mardi Gras All-Star Band, which is also the only act from the region (with the exception of the Seaside High School jazz band).

Led by drummer and vocalist Gary Smith, the Mardi Gras All-Stars play traditional Dixieland jazz. Another scheduled group, High Sierra, performs a similar brand.

"They're traditional jazz," said Johnson of High Sierra. "They play a lot of the Dixieland-style music, and they're very good at it. Most of the traditional bands have seven members. They have piano, banjo, tuba, a reedman, trumpet, trombone and drums."

Early jazz

So, too, are acts at the Seaside Jazz Festival whose inspiration comes from outside the traditional sphere of early jazz (although only by a few decades — nothing here is sourced from the 21st century).

"Tom Ridney does some blues," said Johnson. "His band will also play a waltz. He does Cajun, zydeco. He plays an electric fiddle. His band is only five members. There's guitar, bass and a piano player — and she's a boogie-woogie champion on the piano."

Johnson highlighted Dave Bennett and the Memphis Speed Kings as another group performing outside the purview of traditional jazz.

"Dave Bennett is just an awesome young man," Johnson said. "I've seen him playing in jazz bands since he was about 13 years old. He played the clarinet."

"But he not only plays the clarinet," added Johnson. "He reinvented himself as an old-time fan of Jerry Lee Lewis. So when he's playing with the Memphis Speed Kings, they do Jerry Lee Lewis,

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Dave Bennett, of Dave Bennett and the Memphis Boys, played a rollicking piano during the Seaside Jazz Festival in 2014. He will be back again at this year's festival Feb. 19 through 22.

A place to call home

Jewish community meets to plan new congregation

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

For the first time in more than a half century, the Jewish community in the lower Columbia region is making plans for a new congregation.

A permanent location has not been decided, but the congregation has a name, Beit Salmon Congregation, and plans for upcoming holidays, including Passover in April.

Its mission is to enhance the cultural, educational and spiritual life of its participants and to foster a vibrant, diverse and intergenerational cohesive Jewish community.

Beit Salmon is a play on words to recognize the rich fishing history in the region, but also Jewish heritage with "Beit," which means house in Hebrew.

Beit Salmon President Ann Goldeen said there used to be a synagogue in Astoria in the early 1960s, but it disappeared and nothing took its place.

See BEIT SALMON, Page 9A

coast weekend



THURSDAY

Festival of Dark Arts

IF YOU GO

WHAT: Seaside Jazz Festival
WHEN: Feb. 19 through 22
WHERE: Seaside Civic and Convention Center, Shilo Inn Oceanfront, Elks Lodge (shuttle bus provided)
COST: \$10 to \$95
FOR INFO: 866-345-6257; www.jazzseaside.com

Criminal inquiry may supersede ethics probe

By HILLARY BORRUD
Capital Bureau

SALEM — The Oregon Ethics Commission will likely have to place its investigation of ethics complaints against Gov. John Kitzhaber and first lady Cylvia Hayes on hold, now that Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum launched a criminal investigation of the couple's activities.

Ron Bersin, executive director of the commission, said Tuesday that state law calls for the commission to halt its civil inquiry if prosecutors launch a criminal investigation.

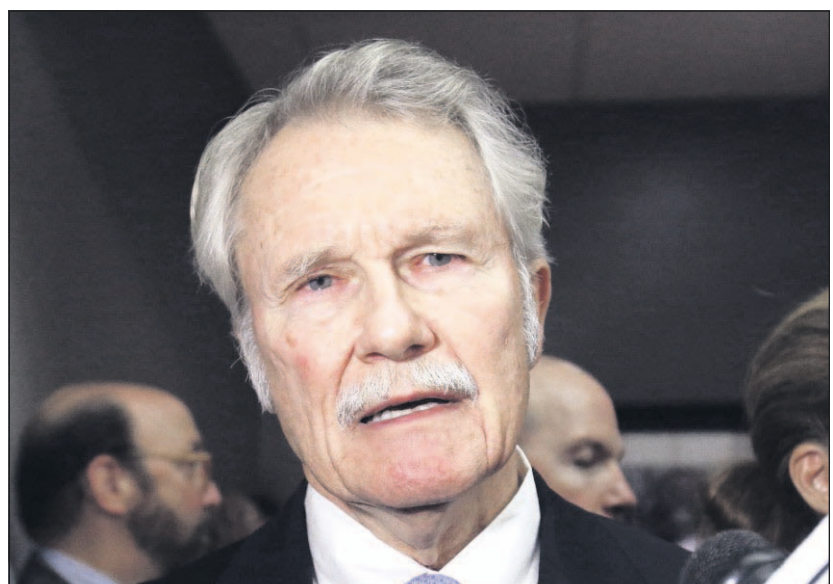
"If there is a criminal investigation, statute requires that we suspend our inquiry," Bersin said.

Kristina Edmunson, a spokeswoman for Rosenblum, said the investigation opened by the attorney general Friday is criminal in nature.



That means details of the overlap between Hayes' paid contracts and her unpaid work as a state energy and economic development adviser could remain under wraps for a longer period.

The ethics commission was expected to decide at a March 13 meeting whether to proceed with a full-blown investigation of Kitzhaber and Hayes. At that point, ethics investigators' reports and other records would become public, regardless of whether commissioners decided to pursue the investigation.



AP Photo/Don Ryan, file

Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber makes a statement before his gubernatorial debate with Republican challenger Dennis Richardson in Portland, Oct. 10.

See INQUIRY, Page 9A

