

# Gearhart man arrested on meth charges

By KYLE SPURR  
The Daily Astorian

A 45-year-old Gearhart man was arrested on methamphetamine charges Tuesday evening after a Clatsop County Drug Task Force investigation, according to the Clatsop County Sheriff's Office. Leonard Shane Hitchman was arrested and charged with posses-

sion of methamphetamine, delivery of methamphetamine within 1,000 feet of a school, frequenting a place where controlled substances are used and felon in possession of a restricted weapon.

Hitchman was transported and booked into the Clatsop County Jail. Drug Task Force detectives received numerous complaints over several months regarding ongoing

illegal drug activity at 166 Ridge Drive in Gearhart, according to the Sheriff's Office.

Detectives were able to develop information and were granted search warrants for Hitchman's residence and his vehicle.

Drug Task Force detectives with the assistance of Sheriff's Office deputies and Seaside Police officers executed the search warrants

on Hitchman, his vehicle and residence.

During the search, detectives discovered methamphetamine, drug trafficking records, needles, scales and packaging materials commonly used by illegal drug traffickers.

In addition, detectives found more than \$1,500 in cash and a weapon.



Leonard Hitchman

## Interviews for county clerk to begin next week

By KYLE SPURR  
The Daily Astorian

The search to replace former Clatsop County Clerk Maeve Kennedy Grimes is moving forward with interviews scheduled to begin next week.

County Manager Scott Somers said 10 people applied for the position by the application deadline Friday. Of the 10 applicants, Somers said, four are scheduled to be interviewed over the next two weeks.

Somers said he is unable to release the names of the finalists at this time, but said all of the

candidates are from Oregon.

"I have some very good applications," Somers said. "I'm excited we have some good interest."

Somers fired Kennedy Grimes in December after she was placed on paid administrative leave Oct. 20 following two errors on the General Election ballot.

As a result of the ballot errors, the county was required to distribute supplemental ballots to voters for a Clatsop Community College bond measure and a Cannon Beach City Council race.

An internal investigation by

Somers found the clerk's office did not follow its established protocol for proofreading the draft ballots before the election.

Somers' findings showed an issue with distractions and multitasking. The proofreaders worked individually rather than following the procedure of reading out loud while another proofreader reads along, Somers said at the time.

Valerie Crafard, clerk of the Board of Commissioners, has since served as interim county clerk.

During the general election in November, Somers hired former

county employee Karen Barnum as the interim deputy clerk.

Kennedy Grimes served as Clatsop County Clerk from 2011 to 2012, then returned to the position in June 2013.

The county clerk is the official record keeper for the county who issues marriage licenses, county park passes, accepts applications for passports and liquor licenses, performs marriages and coordinates and records Board of Property Tax Appeal hearings, according to the county. In addition, the county clerk is the county's chief election official.

## Keep the 'wild' in Oregon's wildlife

SALEM — Oregonians can help support Oregon's wildlife by donating to the Nongame Wildlife Fund, Charitable Code 19, in the charitable check-off donation on the 2014 Oregon state tax return. Funds support 88 percent of the state's wildlife that are not hunted or fished, such as native frogs, turtles, songbirds and bats.

"The donations we receive from the Nongame Wildlife Fund help us protect

and enhance Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats for use and enjoyment by present and future generations," said Andrea Hanson, Conservation Strategy coordinator.

Donations have helped by bringing back the bald eagle, Peregrine falcon and western snowy plover from the brink of extinction; fund wildlife habitat improvement projects on private and public

lands; purchase educational materials for science classes as part of the Bird by Bird pilot program in the Portland School District; and fund conservation programs for sensitive species, including the western pond turtle and Willamette Valley grassland birds.

For information on the Nongame Wildlife Fund, go to <http://bit.ly/1CIpVIS>

## County seeks to fill planning commission seats

Applications are being accepted for three open seats on the Clatsop County Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission is the county's committee for citizen involvement on development and land use issues such as zoning, natural resources, transportation, natural hazards, economic development, housing, farm and forest lands and coastal zones.

The commission makes land use decisions on variances, con-

ditional uses and subdivisions.

It also makes recommendations to the Board of Commissioners on amendments to the comprehensive plan and its implementing ordinances.

The commission meets the second Tuesday of each month in Astoria.

The open positions are for two full terms running from July 2015 to June 2019 and one vacant seat whose term ends June 2018.

For more information, con-

tact Jennifer Bunch, senior planner, at 503-325-8611 or [jbunch@co.clatsop.or.us](mailto:jbunch@co.clatsop.or.us)

The Planning Commission represents all geographical areas of the county, including incorporated cities.

The Board of Commission-

ers will consider the appointments at one of its upcoming regular meetings. Application forms are available from the County Manager's office at 800 Exchange St., Suite 410, Astoria, OR, or online at [www.co.clatsop.or.us](http://www.co.clatsop.or.us)

**ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS**

**Astoria Chiropractic**  
ANN GOLDEEN, D.C. | BARRY SEARS, D.C.

**AUTO ACCIDENTS  
WORK-RELATED INJURIES**

*Don't delay! Call today!*  
We bill most insurance companies, including Medicare

**503-325-3311** 2935 MARINE DR • ASTORIA

**NORTH COAST SYMPHONIC BAND**

**age of aquarius**  
Conducted by Dave Becker

**SUNDAY FEB. 22 Liberty Theater • Astoria**

*Pre-show at 1:30: Basin Street NW Duo featuring Dave Drury, guitar and Todd Pederson, bass. Guest Vocalists: Andy and Rachel Becker*

Tickets: ADULTS \$15.00, STUDENTS \$7, CHILDREN 10 & under free if accompanied by an adult.

Available at the Liberty Theater Box Office, 2-5:30 PM Tues-Sat, 2 hours before show or 503-325-5922 x55

60's and 70's photos of current members of the NCSB

Carole Anderson Shelley Loring Bob La Torre David Drury

**WANTED**

**Alder and Maple Saw Logs & Standing Timber**

**Northwest Hardwoods • Longview, WA**

Contact: Steve Axtell • 360-430-0885 or John Anderson • 360-269-2500

"Freshest Produce In Town"

**Columbia Fruit & Produce**

LARGE HEADS  
CAULIFLOWER.....EA **.99¢**

BROCCOLI CROWNS LB **.89¢**

1# MINI  
CARROTS.....EA **.99¢**

CANTALOUPE.....LB **.59¢**

BOSC & D'ANJOU  
PEARS.....LB **.79¢**

TEXAS PINK  
GRAPEFRUIT.....2/**.89¢**

GALA & CAMEO  
APPLES.....LB **.79¢**

Prices good Thursday through Saturday  
Open 9-5:30 Tuesday Thru Friday • Saturday 9-5:00

**6TH & BOND | ASTORIA | 503-325-4045**

**Consult a PRO**

**Roby's Furniture & Appliance**

Astoria • (503)325-1535  
1555 Commercial Street

Store Hours  
Mon. - Fri. 9:30 to 5:30  
Saturday 10:00 to 5:00

More Locations:  
Tillamook • (503) 842-7111  
1126 Main Ave  
Lincoln City • (541) 996-2177  
6255 S.W. Hwy. 101  
Newport • (541) 265-9520  
5111 N. Coast Hwy.  
Florence • (541)997-8214  
18th & Hwy. 101

**Why does frozen food stored for a length of time develop "freezer burn"?**

Cold air below the freezing point will dehydrate food naturally! In fact, the colder the air, the less capable it is of retaining moisture! Since the ideal temperature for a food freezer is 0 degrees, it is why food needs to be wrapped or contained properly to prevent this natural dehydration process known as "freezer burn"!

**What's the best advice for me to keep my teeth healthy?**

Seriously, this begins with you. In today's dental world, fewer people are losing all their teeth. The very best advice is to be diligent, maybe even obsessive in your home-care brushing and flossing. Next, like it or not, see your dental hygienist frequently and your dentist regularly for dental checkups. You will be way ahead — cost-wise, time-wise and treatment-wise — by making routine dental care part of your life's commitment. We look forward to seeing you.

JEFFREY M. LEINASSAR  
DMD, FAGD

**LEINASSAR DENTAL EXCELLENCE**

[www.smileastoria.com](http://www.smileastoria.com)  
**503/325-0310**  
**1414 Marine Drive, Astoria**

**Leo Finzi**

**Certified Microsoft Refurbisher. Upgrade to Windows 7 or 8 HERE.**

**Astoria's Best NETWORK AND COMPUTER SALES, SERVICES AND REPAIRS**

M-F 10-6, Sat 12-5  
**1020 Commercial #2**  
**503-325-2300**

**Can I sent a text message to a cell phone from my computer?**

Yes! Write an email, and send it to the person's phone number @THEIR PHONE COMPANY.

Here are some popular examples.  
Verizon 5034401234@VTEXT.COM

AT&T 5031234567@TXT.ATT.NET

Net 10 5031234567  
@NET10WIRELESS.COM/

Don't know who their phone company is?  
Look it up at this web site.  
CARRIERLOOKUP.COM

**I'm going out of town and need to stop my newspaper. What are my options?**

We have several different options for you if you are heading out of town. We can save your papers in a vacation pack and deliver them when you return. We can switch you to a Web subscription while you are away and you can read the paper online. You can have your delivery stopped and you can donate your missed newspapers to local schools. What ever option fits your needs, just call our circulation department at 503-325-3211 and we will take care of it for you.

**THE DAILY ASTORIAN**

[www.dailyastorian.com](http://www.dailyastorian.com)  
**503-325-3211**  
**949 Exchange St. Astoria, OR**

I've told Mom the same thing three times ...but she seems to keep forgetting.

**IT'S NOT LIKE HER.**

**WE CAN HELP.**

Call us with questions about aging and Alzheimer's.

**1-855-ORE-ADRC**  
**HelpForAlz.org**

**ADRC**  
Aging and Disability Resource Connection of OREGON

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAM