

Lawsuits paint grim picture of Port

Fired employees allege reprisal, wrongdoing from former interim director

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Recently fired Port of Astoria employees Colleen Browne and Tami Herman don't have very good reviews of their former boss, Michael Weston,

who is now the agency's director of business development and operations. Browne, the Port's former finance director, and Herman, the former facilities manager, each filed a lawsuit last week through their attorney, Anne Foster. Each seeks

more than \$2.5 million on claims of whistleblower retaliation, aiding and abetting retaliation, unauthorized disclosure of a whistleblower's identity, breach of employment contract, defamation of character and post-employment retaliation against

the Port and/or Weston.

The Port's and Weston's lawyer in the case, General Counsel Ron Downs from the Special Districts Association of Oregon, said he's still formulating an answer to the suit. The Port was served Thursday

and has 21 days to respond, unless Downs gets an extension.

Former Executive Director Hank Bynaker resigned in September 2013, after which Weston took over as interim executive director until the Port Commission hired Jim Knight in October.

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RIDING FOR A CAUSE

Ocean Park bicyclist puts in miles on two wheels for fun, and fundraising

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

Every chance he gets, Chase Millsap rides his bicycle.

Millsap, a 23-year-old from Ocean Park on the Long Beach (Wash.) Peninsula, commutes daily on his bicycle to his job at Jack's County Store. On days off, he rides his Trek Domane road bike from the peninsula down the North Coast toward Seaside and Cannon Beach.

The 30- to 50-mile rides help Millsap train for various competitions, such as the Seattle to Portland Bicycle Classic, a 200-mile ride he completed in about 15 hours last year.

Millsap regularly wakes up early, rides to Ilwaco, catches a transit bus across the Astoria Bridge and continues riding his bike over the Youngs Bay Bridge, staying along U.S. Highway 101.

"There are not a lot of people that have this passion for cycling on the Oregon Coast," Millsap said. "There are not a lot of locals who have this goal to get out on a bike and ride."

A large part of Millsap's motivation stems from being able to visit his grandmother, who lives at Necanicum Village, an assisted living and memory care community in Seaside. His grandmother has Alzheimer's disease and severe arthritis.

Seeing his grandmother struggle with her illnesses, especially the painful arthritis, led Millsap to do his part to help. Last year, he raised funds and entered the California Coast Classic Bike Tour, an eight-day, 525 miles ride along Highway 1. The Coast Classic benefits the Arthritis Foundation. Money raised provides educational resources for adults and children and scholarships for the national Juvenile Arthritis Conference and kids' camps.

"I did the ride for the first time last year and it was the ride of my life," Millsap said. "It was emotional. It was exciting. It was the first time I had an opportunity to take my bike down to California. I always wanted to do it."

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During the 2014 California Coast Classic last fall, Chase Millsap stops for a photograph. He is planning to ride this year in the eight-day, 525-mile Coast Classic, which supports the Arthritis Foundation.



Contributed photo
Chase Millsap of Ocean Park, Wash., rode his bicycle 27,000 miles in the past two years. He is planning to ride in the 2015 California Coast Classic this fall to raise funds for the Arthritis Foundation.

HOW TO HELP

Chase Millsap is planning to ride in the 2015 California Coast Classic Bicycle Tour, an eight-day, 525 mile ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles, which directly supports the Arthritis Foundation. Millsap is hoping to raise \$10,000 for the Arthritis Foundation. To help Millsap reach his fundraising goal, visit his webpage at <http://bit.ly/1FUBbvK>

After you're gone

Your Facebook page lives on, or maybe not

By BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK — Facebook is making it easier to plan for your online afterlife.

The world's biggest online social network said it will now let users pick someone who can manage their account after they die. Previously, the accounts were "memorialized" after death, or locked so that no one could log in.

But Facebook says its users wanted more choice. Beginning in the U.S., Facebook users can pick a "legacy contact" to post on their page after they die, respond to new friend requests and update their profile picture and cover photo. Users can also have their accounts deleted after their death, which was not possible before.

If you want someone to manage your account after you die, click on the upside-down triangle on the top right corner of your page, open "settings" and find "security." For U.S. users there will be an option to edit your legacy contact, who must be a Facebook user. But you don't have to pick someone else to manage your account. You can also check a box to permanently delete your account when you die.

The person you choose to manage your account won't be notified of your choice until your Facebook account is memorialized. But you can send them a message before. Facebook will also send you an annual reminder of your pick. This could help if the person dies before you do, for example, or if your friendship cools as the years pass.

If you give your contact additional permission, they will be able to download and archive your photos, posts and profile information after you die. They will not be able to access your private messages. To log into your account, they will have to use their own Facebook login — they won't be able to sign in as you.

Facebook accounts are memorialized at the request of loved ones, who must provide proof of the person's death, such as an obituary. Facebook tries to ensure that the account of the dead user doesn't show up as a "suggested friend" or in other ways that could upset the person's loved ones.

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Warrenton plots path on pot

Mayor believes residents want restrictions

By DERRICK DePLEDGE
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Mayor Mark Kujala said Tuesday night he believes residents might be interested in a ballot initiative in November 2016 to restrict marijuana.

The city adopted a one-year moratorium on medical marijuana dispensaries and voted to tax recreational sales last year before Oregon voters in November approved Measure 91, which legalized the drug.

But the moratorium on medical marijuana dispensaries expires May 1 and there is a cloud over whether local

taxes on the drug that were passed before the statewide vote are legal.

People 21 and over can legally possess marijuana for personal use starting in July and applications for production, processing, wholesale and retail licenses are expected at the Oregon Liquor Control Commission after January.

The earliest cities and counties can restrict the drug through ballot initiatives is November 2016. Local governments that opt out, however, will not be eligible for state tax revenue sharing after July 2017, when the formula will be based on the number of licenses issued.

While Warrenton voters, like other voters in Clatsop County, backed Measure 91, Kujala said the public feed-



Mark Kujala

back he has received from residents since the election has been concern about the impact of marijuana legalization.

"It seems like people would like to put some safeguards in place," the mayor said after the City Commission held a work session on marijuana Tuesday night. "They're really worried

about our schools, worried about the community in general."

Kujala said later in an email that while he does not know whether residents would pursue an outright ban, "I do believe folks want some time and place restrictions on marijuana. It is up to citizens to put an initiative together and we will deal with zoning issues and

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Sing a song of fish

