



THE DAILY ASTORIAN

142nd YEAR, No. 189

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2015

ONE DOLLAR

Recording illegal, not prosecutable, says DA

‘Everyone knew they were being recorded’

By KATHERINE LACAZE
EO Media Group

Clatsop County District Attorney Josh Marquis has received calls from multiple people regarding the recording Gearhart City Administrator Chad Sweet made of an October conversation between Mayor Dianne Widdop, former City Councilor Joy Sigler and himself.



Josh Marquis



Chad Sweet



Dianne Widdop



Joy Sigler

Marquis said his answer always has been the same: The recording was illegal but his office would not prosecute it because of the specific facts in this case. Sigler met with Widdop and Sweet

in October during the weekly “Coffee With the Mayor” event at Gearhart City Hall on Wednesdays. Sigler asked to record the conversation, and all parties consented. Sweet then started his

own recording on his phone — in plain sight, he said.

“I saw the direction (the conversation) was going, and I became concerned (Sigler) would then have the only recording, because that recording could be shortened or parsed,” Sweet said. “In my mind, I thought that would be OK because she had a recording, I have a recording.”

Answer not different

Harold Gable, who is leading a recall effort to oust Widdop, said on his recall petition statement that Widdop attempted to distribute the recording. Widdop has denied those allegations.

In her guest column in The Daily Astorian published March 3, Widdop states, “I was informed later that both the city attorney and the Clatsop County district attorney had determined that the city’s recording was perfectly legal and could be distributed to anyone.”

Sigler said she was alarmed the paper published Widdop’s column “with alleged communication to our district attorney.” She said she was told by someone at the district attorney’s office that Marquis did not speak directly with Widdop, Sweet or Gearhart City Attorney Peter Watts.

See RECORDING, Page 11A

If it’s spring break, it’s baseball



Photos by JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

Warrenton’s Brock Johnson, No. 2, throws a pitch in the rain during fifth inning of the baseball game against Woodburn, Wash., at Seaside’s Broadway Field Friday.

IN THE TOP SPOT

Cape D Coast Guard’s Shane Abold named sector’s Enlisted Person of the Year

By KATIE WILSON
EO Media Group

CAPE DISAPPOINTMENT, Wash. — A U.S. Coast Guard petty officer at Cape Disappointment beat out about 500 other people when he was named Enlisted Person of the Year (2014) for Sector Columbia River, a region that stretches north to Grays Harbor and south to cover all of Oregon and extends inland on the Columbia, Snake and Willamette river systems.

Boatswain’s Mate 1st Class Shane Abold was nominated by the station at Cape Disappointment in Ilwaco.

Abold has served as surfman, heavy weather and tactical cox’n, training petty officer, boarding officer, partnership in education coordinator and in many other capacities.

Abold “established himself as a model shipmate, peer, and mentor for the crew of Coast Guard Station Cape Disappointment,” wrote Capt. D.J. Travers, commander of Sector Columbia River.

According to Lt. Scott McGrew, who oversees operations at the Cape Disappointment station, Abold had distinguished himself in particular by taking over duties as training petty officer.

“Under his supervision, we had people obtain almost 90 certifications in a year,” he said in a phone interview. “That’s people gaining certification as crew members and operators.”

In his other duties, Abold operated boats on many rescue missions that saved lives last year, McGrew added.

Abold “led crews in 244 underway hours, executing 119 missions on the notoriously treacherous Columbia River Bar,” Travers wrote.

See ABOLD, Page 11A

Trappers down the Gulls, 10-1; Warriors struggle

By GARY HENLEY
The Daily Astorian

Some pretty good baseball teams from north of the border invaded Seaside over the weekend, for the Annual Seaside Spring Break Invitational at Broadway Field.

Washington teams from Elma, Fort Vancouver, Hockinson and Hoquiam all took part in the eight-school tournament, hosted by the Gulls.

Fort Vancouver capped the three-day event with a 10-1 win over Seaside Sunday night, hours after Hockinson posted a 7-3 victory over Warrenton, as the Washington schools went a combined 4-0 against the Oregon competition.

In the tournament finale, Fort Vancouver rapped out eight hits, all singles, while the Gulls stranded 10 baserunners.

See BASEBALL, Page 4A

Seaside’s Dylan Wallis, No. 3, runs to first after a hit in the first inning of Seaside’s baseball game against Fort Vancouver, Wash., at Broadway Field Sunday.



Art is about the practice, not the muse

Artists must be ‘stubborn and persistent,’ says Andrea Mace

Andrea Mace is the “poster child for the Cannon Beach Arts Association,” she said.

Before becoming the executive director in 2007, Mace held her first art show — where she also made her first painting sale — at the association-run Cannon Beach Gallery on South Hemlock Street. And she has submitted pieces for the Juried Show Program, where guest curators judge the work of aspiring artists and choose some



Everyday People

artwork for a monthlong installation.

So, as a lifelong artist herself, Mace said she knows what it’s like to have those all-important phone calls:



ERICK BENGEL — EO Media Group

Andrea Mace, executive director of the Cannon Beach Arts Association, stands before a painting by Carl Anich, whose work is on display in the Cannon Beach Gallery. Mace works 20 hours a week at the gallery.

“Sorry, Andrea, you didn’t they actually chose your make it. Click,” or, “Wow, piece!”

To get anywhere, the artist must be “stubborn and persistent” and should “keep putting yourself out there,” she said.

Case in point: Mace applied for the association’s Individual Artist Grant three times before receiving it in 2006.

Her grant project, “Elemental Grace: Where the Earth Meets the Sea,” combined her black-and-white fine art photographs of sites between Falcon Cove and Indian Beach — developed in a dark room, the “old-school, labor-intensive way” — and her metal-wire basketry decorated with shells and beads.

See MACE, Page 11A

