



EO Media Group file

A razor clamming day on the wide open sands of the Long Beach Peninsula is pictured sometime in the 1940s. The good minus tides coming up, combined with predicted sunny weather, may produce similar scenes.

Razor clam: Society still needs to formalize as a nonprofit

Continued from Page 1A

groups online fundraiser page says, "let's not clam up."

Representing clammers

Paul Strickland, an Olympia resident and one of the society's two directors (the other is Alec Gardner from Seattle), said the society got its start after a group of people who enjoyed digging clams were chatting together.

"And the idea cropped up ... and we thought, well why not?" he said.

"We have stakeholder groups like that for a whole variety of fisheries, both commercial and recreational," Ayres said.

Once the society is fully formed and functional, it could represent the interests of recreational razor clam diggers from across the region, which for Pacific razor clams means anywhere from Alaska to California. A similar group in Oregon, the Clam Diggers Association of Oregon, maintains a message board with a variety of thread subjects — "Picking Mussel at Seal Rock" to "Learn to Dig Razor Clams" — but focus on more than just razor clams.

Harvest attracts people and dollars

The recreational harvest of razor clams is not particularly controversial right now, but ad-

vocacy groups have played huge roles for other species when it comes to management decisions or policymaking. Commercial and recreational salmon advocacy groups, for example, are extremely vocal in debates about how those ocean and river fisheries are managed.

Strickland and the other members of the Razor Clam Society felt there was nothing out there specifically for razor clams even while there was a growing interest in this "obscure activity."

For an obscure activity, however, it can bring a lot of people to the beach.

Decades ago, as many as 300,000 people each year came

to the coast to harvest upward of 13 million razor clams, according to WDFW. But disease and overharvesting hurt clam populations in the 1980s. In the 1990s, outbreaks of domoic acid, a potent marine toxin, limited harvesting in Washington. In 2009, WDFW estimated that 250,000 came to dig, harvesting 2.5 to 3 million clams, sometimes with only 15 to 35 days out of the entire year to do so.

A study by the University of Washington and the NOAA West Coast Center for Oceans and Human Health in 2008 broke down the economic benefits to coastal communities, looking at how much visitors hoping to dig their limit of razor

clams spend on hotel accommodations, camping, restaurant visits, groceries, gas and oil, transportation, ferry tolls and other retail transactions. A canceled season affecting all clam digging on the coast could cost communities almost \$22 million in lost revenue, they concluded.

One of the things the Razor Clam Society hopes to show people the positive economic impact of razor clam digs. Strickland would like to see the society sponsor an up-to-date study of the economic impacts of recreational razor clam digs on local communities.

The society still needs to formalize as a nonprofit organi-

zation, a process that takes both time and money.

"Without being a formal 501(c)3 organization we cannot tap into various corporate sponsors and other types of resources, respond to grants, RFPs (request for proposal) for government agencies," Strickland said.

Representatives from the society intend to visit town and for the Long Beach Razor Clam Festival this weekend spread the word about the society and garner support for it.

To find out more about the Razor Clam Society or to contribute to the fundraising campaign, visit <http://bit.ly/IPNK-hOW>.

Leo: He stood out as an educator who could lead the district into the future

Continued from Page 1A

community, reviewed 23 candidate applications and conducted initial interviews with several candidates. After the initial interviews, the field was narrowed to three candidates, whose backgrounds were thoroughly checked. Site visits to their districts were conducted by a team of two board members. The candidates were then invited to the district to spend time meeting staff, students and community. During the district visit, the board conducted a second round of interviews with each of the finalists.

"We had an exciting field of candidates for our superintendent position," Board Chairwoman Kathy Edison said in a press release. "However, at each step in the search process, Jeff Leo stood out as an educator who could lead the Banks School District into the future. We enthusiastically welcome Jeff to our Banks community."

Before becoming superintendent in Knappa, Leo was the principal of Knappa High/

Middle School for two years. He covered both positions as superintendent.

Leo taught math and coached the girls' basketball team at Astoria High School for four years. Before moving to Oregon, Leo taught math for eight years in Yuma, Ariz., where he was named Coach of the Year for Yuma County in 2004.

He has a master's degree in educational leadership from Northern Arizona University and a bachelor's degree in secondary education from Western Montana College.

"In our effort to close the achievement gap and make education truly equitable for all students, we must increase our academic support for students and our support to families," Leo said in the release. "We need to be proud of the strong relationships we build with students, staff, parents and community."

"I'm very excited about the opportunity to be Banks' next superintendent. Schools thrive when teachers, students and the community work together in partnership to create a system where every student can achieve their full potential. We can do that here at Banks."

Smith: Next status hearing set for May 12

Continued from Page 1A

attempting to kill her 13-year-old daughter, Alana Smith, in a Cannon Beach hotel July 31.

In addition to the notice on Smith's mental state, the defense filed a number of other motions including one to bar the possibility of the death penalty.

The aggravated factor that the victim was younger than 14 opens the door for the death penalty. Marquis has not yet decided if he will seek the death penalty.

Falls and Morgan note in their motion that social attitudes have begun to shift against the death penalty, "most particularly against the imposition of the death penalty on an individual judicially determined to have a severe mental illness."

Other motions filed by the defense include standard requests, such as allowing Smith to be free of restraints during all court proceedings and disclosing qualifications of witnesses the state intends to call as an expert.

Marquis wrote a letter March 19 to Smith's defense lawyers and Clatsop County Circuit Court Judge Cindee Matyas expressing frustration over the defense's failure to produce "ANY" discovery, or evidence, to the state. As a result, Marquis



Jessica Smith, alongside her defense attorney William Falls, surveys the scene inside Courtroom 100 on the ground floor of the Clatsop County Courthouse in November.

Daily Astorian file

writes, it is not possible for the state to respond to the defense's other "boilerplate" motions.

The discovery deadline for

the defense was April 7. As of this week, Marquis said, he has received more than 480 pages of discovery from the defense.

The defense has had all the state's discovery for about six months, Marquis notes.

The next status hearing in the case was set for 11:15 a.m. Friday, followed by another hearing May 12.

Smith's defense asked the court to cancel the hearing Friday, claiming it is unnecessary at this time, and would cause Smith to be transported from Tillamook County Jail without good cause.

"It would put this case back in the media eye for no good reason other than to satisfy the state's thirst for publicity, which, in turn, unfairly influences the potential jury pool in this county," Falls and Morgan wrote.

As of Wednesday morning, Friday's hearing was canceled by the court.

A trial is set to begin June 28, 2016.



Getting the inside story at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation

Anna King April 30th

In a series of 12 radio pieces, Anna King is bringing the underrepresented women's perspectives of the Hanford nuclear site out of the shadows.

As a Northwest Public Radio correspondent based in Richland, King is the only journalist covering the Hanford Nuclear Reservation full-time. She has closely followed the mammoth on-again, off-again disposal of nuclear waste at Hanford.

TO ATTEND:

For Members:
Dinner & Lecture: \$30 ea.
Lecture only: no charge

For Non-Members:
Dinner & Lecture: \$40 ea.
Lecture only: \$15 ea.

Appetizers will be available at 6 p.m.

Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.

The speaker will begin after the dinner service is complete and non-dinner members and guests of the audience take their seats.

Forum to be held at the CMH Community Center at 2021 Exchange St., Astoria.

LIMITED SEATING
RESERVE YOUR SPACE TODAY!

ColumbiaForum

FOR RESERVATION OR TO JOIN COLUMBIA FORUM CONTACT:
Holly Larkins at 503.325.3211 ext. 227 or forum@dailyastorian.com by April 27th, 2015

Columbia Forum is sponsored by:

The Daily Astorian • Craft3 • OSU Seafood Laboratory • KMUN-FM
Cannery Pier Hotel & Spa



CMH Primary Care Meet the Team

Locally in WARRENTON

Your Healthcare Team

For expert, compassionate care, find your healthcare team at the CMH Primary Care Clinic. Primary care providers are experienced in the treatment of the whole person and help you lead a healthy life through lifestyle management, chronic disease management and preventative care.

Meet Our Team

Kevin Baxter, DO, is a board-certified osteopathic physician who specializes in family medicine, osteopathic manipulative medicine, hospice and palliative care.

Brian Cox, MD, is a board-certified internal medicine physician. He specializes in allergies, diet and exercise, and chronic disease management.

Jan Monroe, FNP, is a family nurse practitioner who specializes in geriatric medicine, women's health and preventative medicine.

Mary Rizzo, FNP, is a family nurse practitioner with more than 20 years of nursing experience.

Call Today!

Call 503-338-4500 today to schedule an appointment with a member of the CMH Primary Care team. You will enjoy the peace of mind that comes from having a great medical team.

Primary
CMH CARE

1639 Ensign Lane, Warrenton, Oregon • (503) 338-4500
www.columbiamemorial.org • A Planetree-Designated Hospital