

Condominium owners sued for wrongful death

Vacationer incurred fatal injuries while at The Tides By the Sea

By **KATHERINE LACAZE**
EO Media Group

SEASIDE — A wrongful death complaint and request for a jury trial has been filed in Multnomah County Circuit Court regarding an incident that occurred in 2013 at The Tides By the Sea in Seaside.

The plaintiffs are requesting about \$4,366,000 in com-

ensation for negligence they allege resulted in the death of David Lloyd Roach in August 2013, according to the complaint, filed April 23.

The lawsuit lists Norma S. Poitras (also known as Norma S. Ninomiya); Trent Johnson; and Tides Unit Owners Association and/or its unknown business entity and/or subsidiary as the defendants. Jeffrey P. Thayer, a lawyer in Salem,

is representing the plaintiffs, Peter Roach and Andrew Roach, who are the personal representatives of the estate of David Lloyd Roach.

On Aug. 16, 2013, decedent David Roach was vacationing in Seaside with his family staying at rented units at The Tides By the Sea.

According to the complaint, David Roach “attempted to step up onto the deck (at unit No. 130) to join his son, fell backwards and struck his head on the ground.”

“The fall, and the resultant

injuries, were caused by negligence of the defendants as hereinafter more specifically alleged,” the complaint states. “This fall, furthermore, proximately caused certain injuries to decedent David Roach, which, ultimately, resulted in his death.”

David Roach suffered fatal injuries to his head and brain, according to the complaint.

The complaint lists six particular ways in which the defendants — as owners, managers, caretakers, manufacturers

and/or purchasers of the unit — were negligent.

At the time of David Roach’s death, Poitras was the owner of The Tides Condo No. 130, at 2316 Beach Drive, according to the complaint. Johnson was the property manager. Both were responsible, the plaintiffs claim, for the construction, maintenance, care, decoration and upkeep of unit No. 130.

The plaintiffs are asking for a sum not to exceed \$3 million “for the pain and suffering” of David Roach and

to compensate his heirs “for their loss of society and companionship.” The plaintiffs also are requesting approximately \$278,376.70 for economic damages incurred from medical expenses and approximately \$6,732.66 for funeral costs. Additionally, David Roach was the sole caretaker of his wife, Mary Roach, who suffers cognitive impairment, according to the complaint. The plaintiffs are requesting about \$1,080,978.85 for past and future care expenses for her.

Astoria detective promoted to deputy chief

By The Daily Astorian

Astoria Police Department announced Wednesday the promotion of Detective Sgt. Eric Halverson to the position of deputy chief of police.

The promotion was effective Friday.

Halverson joined the Astoria Police Department in 1993 as a police cadet. He became a reserve police officer in 1997 and a police officer in 1998. He served twice as detective and was promoted to sergeant in 2008.

“The promotion of Eric to the role of deputy chief is a natural transition in his career,” Chief Brad Johnston said.

“Moving in to this next role in leadership will be a huge asset to the department. I have no doubt that his skill set equips him to succeed.”

Halverson has advanced and supervisory certificates from the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training.

In the first week of May, he will be completing the Organizational Leadership Academy, which will allow him to attain his middle management certificate. As a graduate from Clatsop Community College with a degree in criminal justice, Halverson has been taking additional classes from Eastern Oregon University.

Halverson will be the No. 2 ranking officer in the department, in charge of police operations. He will also take over the role of public information officer.

Officer Thomas Litwin will be assigned as detective. Litwin, who joined Astoria Police in 2010, has worked as a patrol officer, defensive tactics instructor and field training officer.

Litwin has an intermediate certificate from the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training and an undergraduate degree from Oregon State University.

He will work with Detective Nicole Riley as the investigations team for the department.

The detective position is a temporary assignment with an anticipated two-year rotation.

Riley’s detective position was added in 2014.

“Since the late 1980s every detective has asked for help in the detective’s office,” Johnston said. “I was one of those detectives. (Retired) Chief (Peter) Curzon and I found a way to re-deploy existing resources. This deployment strains our patrol capabilities but the trade-off was necessary.”

Astoria Police employs 16 sworn police officers, eight dispatch employees and 2 1/2 full-time-equivalent employees in the records department.

CEDR offers several business workshops

Clatsop Economic Development Resources has several upcoming workshops:

- “QuickBooks Financial Reports” runs from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. May 7 at Clatsop Community College’s South County Campus, 1455 N. Roosevelt Drive in Seaside. The workshop costs \$29. Pre-registration is required and can be completed online at <http://preview.tinyurl.com/lv9rgcq>
- “Excel Level 2: Formulas, Functions and Pivot Tables” runs from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. May 12 at the South County Campus and

from 6 to 8 p.m. May 12 in Towler Hall Room 105’s computer lab on Clatsop Community College’s main campus, 1651 Lexington Ave. in Astoria. Use the classroom computers or a personal device equipped with at least Windows 7 and Microsoft Office 2013. The workshop costs \$15. Preregistration is required and can be completed by emailing sbdc@clatsopcc.edu or calling 503-338-2402.

- “Use Instagram and Pinterest to Grow Your Business” runs from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. May 14 at the South County

Campus and from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. May 14 in Columbia Hall Room 219 on CCC’s main campus. The workshop costs \$20. Email sbdc@clatsopcc.edu

edu or call 503-338-2402 for a registration link.

All workshop fees are payable at class by check or credit card.

Two Astoria School Board members follow the same schedule

Along with the contest between Jenna Rickenbach and Janice Horning for two unexpired years on a term for Position 5, the Astoria School Board race in the May 19 special district election features two incumbents running uncontested, both have been on the same schedule since joining.

Running for another term at Position 3 is Shawn Helligso, a construction superintendent for Helligso Construction and owner of contracting firm SCH Construction Inc. Running at Position 2 is Martin Dursse, an operations manager for the Columbia River Bar Pilots and a 22-year U.S. Coast Guard veteran.

Both candidates interviewed in July 2008 for appointment to Position 3, vacated by Astoria firefighter Bob Johnson. Helligso was chosen to fill Johnson’s position, while Dursse was chosen the next month to fill Position



Martin Dursse



Shawn Helligso

2, vacated by Astoria forester David Kaspar. Both Helligso and Dursse ran unopposed in 2011.

Cannon Beach looks to fill up to 3 chamber vacancies

The terms of three Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors members will expire in June, and the board’s Nominating Committee is now accepting applications to fill the upcoming vacancies.

Some of the candidate criteria are:

- Must be a member of the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce in good standing
- Period of service is 3 years
- Must attend at least 75 percent of board meetings (nine per year, out of 12 total)
- Can be eligible for two

consecutive terms of three years maximum

- Election to be held after Nominating Committee of President, Vice President, and Past President review applications and submit them to the membership for vote within 10 days after nominations are closed
- Announcement of election results will be declared at the Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting in June

For applications, please contact Executive Director Courtland Carrier at 503-436-2623 (phone), 503-436-0910 (fax) or CourtC@cannonbeach.org.

CCC offers advice for prospective students

Clatsop Community College offers free workshops for prospective students who are interested in learning about programs and ready to begin the application process for admission and financial aid. These workshops are held at 9 and 10 a.m. on select Wednesdays. Sessions are limited to three participants to insure individualized attention. Register online at www.clatsopcc.edu/admissionworkshop

Workshops are designed for students who will pursue a certificate or degree at Clatsop Community College. Learn about available academic and workforce training programs, admission requirements and cost of attendance. Receive hands-on assistance with completing an application for admission, and a jump start on filling out financial aid forms. Discover how to cost-effectively start a career, prepare to transfer to

a four-year school or train for employment in Clatsop County.

Direct further inquiries to admissions@clatsopcc.edu

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