

Questions remain following Oysterville Seafarms ruling

By NATALIE ST. JOHN
EO Media Group

OYSTERVILLE, Wash. — Pacific County South District Court Judge Doug Goelz has ruled that Oysterville Sea Farms owner Dan Driscoll may continue operating a seafood market on his historic Oysterville property — with certain limitations. Both Driscoll and Pacific County Prosecutor Mark McClain claimed the Sept. 17 decision as a victory.

Driscoll has been engaged in a years-long fight with the Pacific County Department of Community Development about what products and amenities he is allowed to offer in the small shop on the site of his family's former cannery. He sees the rul-

ing as mostly favorable to him because it allows him to offer a wider range of products to his customers.

"Thank you to everyone who supports Oysterville Sea Farms during difficult, expensive and unnecessary litigation," Driscoll wrote in an email Friday. "... Hopefully Pacific County will now make efforts to work with Oysterville Sea Farms."

Still needs correct permit

Later, Driscoll said that further discussion with the county is likely, and he still won't be able to operate his business the way he'd like until the county issues the correct kind of food-establishment permit — something he says he's been waiting on for more than a year.

However, he feels the decision is a positive step.

"If the county complies with it and they don't appeal, it will, for the first time, give us the ability to plan for our business. We haven't had that ability for five years," Driscoll said.

However, McClain says the decision is actually favorable to the county, because Driscoll was ultimately found guilty of committing the two 2014 infractions that prompted the hearing. Furthermore, McClain alleges that Judge Goelz overstepped his authority by issuing a land-use decision — something he says only a Superior Court judge can do.

"We're still reviewing the matter. We obviously have some concerns that a district court judge has issued a land-use ruling," McClain said, adding that he would discuss the matter with the Board of County Commissioners, and ask for guidance about how to proceed.

"A district court judge has told him he can have a deli, but I'm sorry, a district court judge isn't allowed to make a land-use decision. For that reason, it merits further consideration," McClain said. The county has about 30 days to decide whether to appeal.

Lunch is fine, but no wine

In the decision, Goelz ordered Driscoll to pay a total of \$300 for the two infractions, claiming that Driscoll had committed the infractions "as it pertains to the sale of wine and spirits" and by "offering indoor

seating without a valid permit," and by "manufacturing cereal on the premises."

Goelz explained that even though the county had never previously objected to Driscoll's sale of wine and beer, they had the right to put a stop to it, because the grandfathering agreement did not allow for it — in most cases, Washington law allows a government body to enforce a rule, even if they have not enforced it, or have enforced it incorrectly in the past.

However, Goelz also affirmed Driscoll's right to continue offering most other products and services, saying, "It is also clear that the defendant may operate a 'small deli' which sells seafood as its primary product with incidental non-seafood products also

available for sale. It also seems clear that the defendant can operate an outdoor seating area limited to the back deck."

More litigation likely

On Tuesday, Driscoll said he was pleased that he would be able to continue operating his business, but he added that Goelz appears to have based some parts of his decision on inaccurate information — Driscoll claims he has already removed all indoor seating, and has never manufactured cereal there, as Goelz claimed in the decision. He is still deciding whether to appeal the decision.

Driscoll expressed dismay that the county now appears poised to challenge Goelz's authority to rule on the matter.

Wood workshop carved out for Tuesday

The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — The Oregon State University Clatsop County Extension Service and Clatsop Community College are offering a workshop, "How to Identify Wood," taught by instructor Jim Reeb, from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday at the CCC South Campus, 1455 N. Roosevelt Drive in Seaside.

Students will learn techniques that will help identify lumber, or even pieces of driftwood.

There is a \$10 registration fee to help cover the cost of

handout materials. The registration deadline is Friday, and space is limited. The registration form can be found online at <http://bit.ly/1FbuW8t>, or stop by the OSU Clatsop County Extension Office at 2001 Marine Drive, Room 210.

Instructor Dave Shaw, OSU Extension Forest Health Specialist, is teaching "Forest Health Workshop: What's Eating My Trees?" from 10 a.m. to noon Sept. 30, at the same location. This class is designed for foresters, arborists and landowners who are worried about insects and diseases in their trees.

Students will learn how to diagnose some of the more common insects and diseases found in local woodlands.

Register by Monday to attend. The cost is \$10, and includes handout materials. Register online at <http://bit.ly/1V6nnBI> or go to the OSU Clatsop County Extension Office at 2001 Marine Drive, Room 210. For information about either class, contact Jim Reeb, associate professor of Forestry and Natural Resources, at 541-574-6534, ext. 57419, or Jim.Reeb@oregon-state.edu

Seaside dispatchers among graduates in statewide telecommunications class

The Daily Astorian

Joelle Burk and Justin Bennett, 911 dispatchers for the Seaside Police Department, are among a group of 21 dispatchers statewide to graduate from the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training's 95th Basic Telecommunications Class.

The two-week course includes emergency call handling techniques, stress management, civil liability,

ethics, criminal law, overview of fire and rescue and law enforcement operations.

Upon completing the course, Burk and Bennett will return to Seaside to continue their training for a number of months with a field training officer.

The 911 training program began in 1993 after the state Legislature required that individuals who receive emergency calls for assistance from the public meet profes-

sional standards for training and certification.

There are about 950 people across the state who work as dispatchers in city, county, tribal, regional and state public safety communications centers.

The graduation ceremony will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem. Steve Reinke, director of Deschutes County 911, will be the guest speaker at the graduation.

Unemployment climbs upward in northwest Oregon

The Daily Astorian

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in northwest Oregon continued its slow upward climb in August, according to data from the Oregon Employment Department released Tuesday.

In Clatsop County, the unemployment rate in August was 5.9 percent, slightly up from last month (5.8 percent) but 0.7 percent lower than last year. It is lower than the statewide rate (6.1 percent) and higher than the U.S. rate (5.1 percent).

Clatsop County's unemployment rate is now the ninth-lowest in the state. The county lost 110 jobs in August, 70 more than expected. That left total nonfarm payroll employment at 17,520, 480 more than the year prior, a growth rate of 2.7 percent.

The private sector dropped 30 jobs in August, and government employment fell by 80. The accommodation industry

trimmed 40 jobs, and food services and drinking places gained 30. Other industries had smaller changes. Local government education fell by 70 jobs, as the summer school break continued.

Industries adding the most jobs over the past year included leisure and hospitality (290), other services (90), educational and health services (100) and construction (50). The industry shedding the most jobs in the past year was nondurable goods manufacturing (60).

Columbia County

Columbia County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in August was 7.5 percent, up 0.2 percent from July and

0.9 percent lower than the year prior.

The county gained 40 jobs, 110 fewer than expected. That left total nonfarm payroll employment at 10,460, 470 more than the year prior, a growth rate of 4.8 percent.

The private sector trimmed 10 jobs in August, and government employment rose by 50. Educational and health services cut 30 jobs, and other industries had smaller changes. Local government education added 60 jobs as the summer break drew to a close.

Over the past year, construction added 160 jobs, durable goods manufacturing grew by 150, retail trade contributed 80,

and leisure and hospitality added 70. Governments trimmed 10 jobs over the year. State government added 40 jobs, but local government education was down 40. Oregon has added many home health workers in the past two years, and they are counted in state government.

Tillamook County

Tillamook County's seasonally adjusted unemployment

rate in August was 6.1 percent, the same as last month and down 0.9 percent from the year prior.

The county gained 20 jobs in August, 50 fewer than expected. That left total nonfarm payroll employment at 8,870, 370 more than last year, a growth rate of 4.1 percent.

The private sector grew by 10 jobs in August, and governments added 10. Leisure and

hospitality industry added 30 jobs, but retail trade cut 30, and food manufacturing shed 40. Local government education rose by 30 jobs.

Industries adding the most jobs over the year were manufacturing (220), educational and health services (100) and leisure and hospitality (60). Professional and business services and financial services were each down 30 jobs over the year.

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Jade Marie Morgan

September 22, 1998 - September 19, 2015



A precious life gone too soon. Jade Marie Morgan, 16, of Astoria, passed away Saturday, September 19, 2015 in Astoria. She was beautiful, goofy, and full of sarcasm. She told you exactly how it was and didn't hold anything back. She was always smiling.

Jade "Jaderbug"/"Puddens" was born September 22, 1998 to Jeanne Riser Reeves and Robert Morgan. She was raised in Astoria, and surrounding areas. She was a Junior at Astoria High School. She loved spending time with her boyfriend, friends and family. Jade loved spending time at the beach, and drinking Dutch Bros.

Jade is survived by mother, Jeanne Riser Reeves, and father, Bob Morgan both of Astoria. The Love of her Life, Lars Wullger also of Astoria. Brothers Jake and Josh Reeves of Astoria. Grandparents Larry and Colleen Morgan of Knappa, and Grandpa Lynn Riser of Astoria. Two aunts and an uncle, Christina Riser of Astoria, Travis Weichal of Astoria, and Shelley Morgan of Warrenton. Cousins Renee Riser of Warrenton, Jander Pineda of Astoria, and Thomas and Allan Verbrugge. She also has several Great Aunts and Uncles, and numerous cousins. She was preceded in death by her Grandma Cathy Riser.

There will be a funeral service at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds on Saturday, September 26th at 10 a.m. We invite you to wear pastel or bright colors as we all know Jade would wonder what is wrong with us if we all wore just black.

"My precious daughter, I miss you so much it's unbearable. Your beauty, your wittiness, and your total zest for life is everywhere. I was born to be your momma; we wanted a baby girl, and you definitely exceeded our expectations. I will never be the same without you. I am lost now." - Jeanne, Jade's mom

"I just love you Jade more than I can ever say. It hurts so bad. You were the best daughter and my friend. I will see you again someday. I just want to tell you I love you forever." - Bob, Jade's dad.