

Smith: Next court hearing is scheduled for Thursday

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“Finally, Ms. Smith appears to suffer from a mental disability which interferes with her ability to understand the nature and consequences of any waiver of her important constitutional rights she may be called upon to make in this

case,” Morgan wrote.

Smith’s defense recently filed other motions including one accusing the state of intruding into the confidential attorney-client relationship. The defense is upset over the state publicly filing a report from Tillamook County Sheriff’s Office Sgt. Brandon Roberts

that included details relating to Smith’s interactions with her defense team. The report details Smith’s refusal to be evaluated on three occasions in October by the state’s psychologist. She told Sgt. Roberts, “I can’t do this. I don’t know what is wrong. I’m sick and I’m going to throw up.”

Sgt. Roberts’ jail report noted that Smith’s behavior had been noticeably different since she returned to custody from a previous court hearing in early October.

“Smith’s normal demeanor while in our custody has been almost bubbly at times without a real connection as to why she

is in custody,” Roberts wrote. “From this point forward it would be my opinion she has some awareness as to her current reality. Smith’s demeanor is now solemn, disturbed and she is showing signs of depression.”

Smith is accused of aggravated murder and attempted

aggravated murder for allegedly drugging and murdering her daughter, Isabella Smith, 2, and attempting to kill her older daughter, Alana Smith, then 13, in a Cannon Beach hotel in July 2014.

The next court hearing is scheduled for Thursday. A trial is set in June.



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

Crews work on creating gaps along the jetty in Trestle Bay.

Trestle Bay: ‘There are a lot of partnerships. Everyone wanted to see this project done’

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Through surveys and research, the Army Corps decided more openings would be needed to increase fish habitat. Hydrological monitoring was done to determine the best places to further breach the South Jetty Root.

The Army Corps awarded the restoration project last year to LKE Corp. out of Washougal, Washington.

Work was set to begin in November, but like many construction projects, it was delayed this winter due to bad weather and high water.

Placed up against other stones
Crews recently set up the

barge with the crane, which is large enough to lift the jetty stones, some weighing up to 7 tons. The jetty stones will not be removed from the bay, but rather placed up against other stones along the structure. The largest opening will be about 380 feet while other openings will be about 50 feet, all totaling 900 feet.

Throughout the project, the Army Corps has coordinated with the state park. Work is being done in a hunting area, so constant coordination has been necessary for all the parties involved.

“The park role with regard to the jetty breach is as caretaker of the adjacent land, as (Oregon Parks and Recreation Depart-

ment) has an existing lease with (the Army Corps) to use those lands for public recreation,” Mike Stein, North Coast District Manager for Fort Stevens State Park, said.

The Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce is a partner agency helping to complete the restoration project. CREST helped fund 25 percent of the project through assistance from Bonneville Power Administration.

As a nongovernmental partner, CREST offered a different perspective to the project.

“There are a lot of partnerships,” Saldana said. “Everyone wanted to see this project done.”

The Army Corps’ focus on restoration projects relate to agreements decades ago to mitigate dam construction work. The Army Corps and the Bonneville Power Administration agreed to implement projects that restore fish habitat and improve conditions for juvenile fish.

“It’s all part of the Lower Columbia ecosystem restoration to improve fish access,” Saldana said.

Hemp: ‘Farmers are always looking for an alternative crop’

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research. Jay Stratton Noller, head of the university’s Department of Crop and Soil Science, said he anticipates the DEA will approve the request and test plots could be planted in April. Three to five years of experiments would be necessary for Oregon State to produce useful data for growers, he said.

Starting from scratch

Researchers are starting from scratch because hemp germ plasm had to be destroyed in the 1970s when the federal Controlled Substances Act classified hemp the same as pot and other drugs, Noller said.

Noller said hemp was a viable crop in the past and is grown around the world. In the U.S., the first American flag was made of hemp, he said.

“In terms of the number of uses, it obviously buoys a lot of people’s optimism,” he said. “Farmers are always looking for an alternative crop: One, for rotation, and two, for the alternative markets.”

“The enthusiasm is not hyperbolic,” he said.

The Legislature legalized hemp cultivation in 2009, but the law wasn’t implemented because the U.S. Department of Justice classified hemp the same as marijuana. The federal classification remains, but the Justice Department has said it won’t interfere with hemp production in states that have adopted a robust regulatory system. Industrial hemp was included in the November 2014 Oregon ballot measure that legalized recreational marijuana use, possession and cultivation, and the state issued the first hemp licenses as a result.

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Gearhart: Judge Matyas denied the request for a procedural continuance

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for residential but not commercial use, the city says, could endanger the health and well-being of residents or visitors.

A hearing was scheduled for Dec. 31 at the request of Smith to oppose the injunction, citing a ruling by Municipal Judge John Orr in October, who said Gearhart’s zoning rules didn’t regulate party rentals.

The city has responded that Orr’s ruling was based on city zoning code, not safety violations issued by Building Official Jim Brien under the city’s municipal and state building codes.

The city first levied a \$5,000 administrative fine for illegal commercial use of the barn in 2012, which was subsequently reduced to \$1. A second \$5,000 penalty for use of the barn in 2012 has yet to be paid, according to Sweet.

In December, after meeting for more than five hours, the City Council upheld more than \$30,000 in penalties against Neacoxie Barn delivered after six events held in 2015. Councilors reduced that fine by half, to \$15,000, although an additional \$5,000 in civil administrative fines — for use of the barn in November — awaits City Council review.

The City Council has the final authority to uphold this fine based on the charges, Sweet said.

A cooling-off period?

In Circuit Court documents, Dan Kearns, Smith’s attorney, challenged the city’s injunction procedure based on Judge Orr’s ruling, seeking to dismiss the



Katherine Lacaze/EO Media Group
Gearhart resident Shannon Smith has clashed with the city over the use of her historic livery as an events center.

case due to “lack of jurisdiction, failure to state a claim and another action is pending.”

That proceeding had been scheduled for Dec. 31.

The city’s claims were “indefinite and uncertain,” Kearns wrote, “and without legal basis.”

In a late-December letter, Kearns requested a delay based on “hopefully fruitful settlement discussions.”

He sought a “60-day cooling off period where the parties would meet and confer and attempt to resolve this dispute.”

Without the parties present, Judge Cindee Matyas denied the request for a procedural continuance.

If an agreement is not reached between the Smith and the city, a Circuit Court hearing prohibiting the barn from commercial activities would be held at a future date, Sweet said.

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Research shows 4-H helps young people excel beyond their peers

The structured learning, encouragement and adult mentoring that young people receive through their participation in 4-H plays a vital role in helping them achieve success in life.

The Positive Development of Youth: Comprehensive Findings from the 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development from Tuft’s University is a longitudinal study that began in 2002 and was repeated annually for eight years, surveying more than 7,000 adolescents from diverse backgrounds across 42 U.S. states.

Highly regarded as the first-ever research project of its kind, the study defined and measured positive youth development. Compared to their peers, the report shows that youth involved in 4-H programs excel in several areas. 4-H’ers are about:

- **Four times** more likely to make *contributions to their communities* (grades 7-12);
- **Two times** more likely to be *civically active* (grades 8-12);
- **Two times** more likely to make *healthier choices* (grade 7);
- **Two times** more likely to participate in *science, engineering and computer technology* during out-of-school time (grades 10-12); and
- 4-H girls are **two times** more likely (grade 10) and nearly **three times** more likely (grade 12) to take part in *science programs* compared to girls in other out-of-school time activities.

In 4-H, we believe that every child has valuable strengths and given the chance, can be powerful to realize their dreams and lead change. 4-H empowers young people to be true leaders with life skills like confidence, teamwork, curiosity and resilience. The intentional teaching of these life skills comes through clubs, workshops, afterschool programs, retreats and more. Caring adults work as mentors to the youth building the knowledge and confidence they need to be responsible adults.

As we begin the new year, Clatsop County 4-H has opportunities available for 4-H and non 4-H members. Some of the upcoming activities are listed below.

Biz Kidz/Young Entrepreneur Information Meeting — ages 5-19 — open to 4-H and non-4-H youth

Come find out more about this youth program that teaches the ABC’s of building a business. Youth will attend a “Market Biz Kidz Boot Camp” in March where they will learn creating & inventing a product, designing a display, branding a product, and learning to work with money. Participants will then have the opportunity to sell at the Astoria Sunday Market next summer. Information night is January 26th, 6pm at the 4-H Club House.

Super Saturday — Ages 5-19 — Open to 4-H and non 4-H youth are invited to attend this free day of fun workshops at the fairgrounds. There are two tiers of classes:

- Cloverbud (5-8 years) — 7 sessions throughout the day with a max. of 40 youth attending. Hands-on crafts and

activities include: science, art, crafts, games and more. Limited to 40, RSVP required.

- Traditional (9+ years of age) — 20+ workshops to choose from. Some hands-on topics include: animals, cooking, archery, shotgun, dogs, horses, photography, science, swing dance, owl pellets, Anime/magna drawing, cake decorating, and more! Some classes are limited.

New to 4-H? — Want to raise a market animal but don’t have the funds? The Hampton Affiliates Livestock Sponsorship Program may be available to you and it’s not too late to join 4-H!

This Sponsorship is available for the 2015/2016 4-H year! The program outline is designed to allow first-year auction age 4-H individuals to raise a market animal where participation was prevented due to circumstances beyond their control. Applications are due by January 29th, 2016 with interviews taking place on February 15-16th. For more information you can view applications online at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/clatsop/4-h-forms> or stop by the 4-H office for application packet.

I Can Sew! (youth and adult mentor) Classes ages 9-19 — open to 4-H and non-4-H youth Feb. 1, 8, 22, 29, (Mondays), 6-7:30pm at the 4-H Club House. Youth and mentor learn together the basic skills needed to sew pajama bottoms. Bring a machine if you have one and you will need to supply sewing tools and supplies. Limited to 10 youth.

Come to Experiencing Citizenship! Spring Break — 4-H and non-4-H youth and teens from across Oregon are invited to attend! Experiencing Citizenship is a conference that happens March 20-23rd. This conference takes place at the Salem Grand Hotel and Conference Center in Salem, Oregon and the State Capital Building. Transportation will be provided for the first 7 youth.

Learn about the different functions of the state capital, learn dinner etiquette, and expand your leadership and public speaking skills. Some activities include: meeting Senators at the State Capital, preparing and delivering presentations on a “real Oregon” issue, swimming, and hanging out with friends.

The cost is \$160.00 — Deadline is Feb. 26th, 2016 Dress code applies.

More info can be found at <http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/Experiencing-Citizenship-2016> or call the Extension Office. Registration will be done online but call the office and let us know you plan on attending so we can get you on the transportation list.

If you are interested in finding out more info on any of these or to sign up for 4-H, please contact the Clatsop County Extension office at 503-325-8573.

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