

INTRODUCING THE SCANDINAVIAN MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL COURT

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DEATH AND THE OCEAN

FRIDAY EXTRA • 1C

Nygaards wrongly filled wetlands, EPA says

Restoration, fine under negotiation

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Nygaard Land LLC, owned by a prominent timber-harvesting family, violated the federal Clean Water Act

by filling about 60 acres of wetlands south of the Astoria Regional Airport last year without a permit, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The company leveled and filled the wetlands for pasture while the nearby Lewis and Clark Bridge was closed for repairs.

Nygaard Land is in negotiations

with the EPA to restore the wetlands and pay a fine for the violation.

"We're hoping for restoration of the site, at least enough restoration to get it back on track to what it used to be," said Yvonne Vallette, a wetlands coordinator for the EPA in Portland.

Nygaard Land said it is cooperating with the federal agency. "This property has been a farm for almost

100 years and we are cooperating fully with EPA to resolve the matter," the company said in an emailed statement Thursday night.

The work occurred on property Nygaard Land owns between Airport Lane and U.S. Highway 101 while the bridge was closed for partial replacement. Vallette said the company had an application with the state Depart-

ment of Forestry to log the land, which it did in 2014 and last year.

"The (Oregon) Forest Practices Act allows logging to occur on wetlands as long as nothing else happens to the land," said Julie Curtis, a spokeswoman with the Department of State Lands. "If the use of the land

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They've got a ticket to ride



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

Astoria High School students Sarah Miller, left, and Beth Mathre, right, sing as they record a music video on the John Lennon Educational Tour Bus at Astoria High School on Tuesday.



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

Jared Rivera records in the sound booth at the John Lennon Educational Tour Bus.

Lennon bus helps students imagine music production

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Top Hat, city's newest band, was born in a bus parked outside Astoria High School.

The John Lennon Educational Tour Bus, a sky blue, \$3 million mobile recording studio marked by a rough sketch of the late Beatles frontman, stopped by Tuesday on a tour of high schools on the West Coast. The experience gave students a chance at professional production and YouTube glory.

The nonprofit that runs the Lennon bus was started by Yoko Ono in 1998 to honor her husband's legacy and to help students express themselves through music at a time when musical programs face funding crunches. The bus visits about 200 schools a year, with help from corporate sponsors.

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Marquis says too much spotlight

Clatsop DA files ethics charge against Bundy lawyers

By MAXINE BERNSTEIN
The Oregonian
An AP Member Exchange

Clatsop County District Attorney Josh Marquis has filed a complaint with the state bar against Ammon Bundy's lawyers, contending their pretrial statements outside federal court and released recordings of their client will unfairly prejudice future jurors.

Marquis, who informed the Oregon State Bar that he's lectured on the "ethical limits of making comments on pending cases," said he

is not personally acquainted with the Eugene-based attorneys Mike Arnold or Lissa Casey but has watched three lengthy videos posted on YouTube by Arnold's firm.



Josh Marquis

"Mr. Arnold's conduct and that of his members of his firm causes great concern for those of us who strongly believe in the appropriate discussion of cases pending in the tribunals of federal or state courts," Marquis wrote.

In Marquis' complaint, which was emailed to the Oregon State Bar on Feb. 17 and first reported by The Register-Guard in Eugene Thursday, the Clatsop County district attorney described the Oregon U.S. Attorney's Office's handling of the federal conspiracy case pending against Bundy and 24 others as "measured."

"Yet Mr. Arnold has seen fit to constantly hold news conferences to convey his clients' opinions, defenses, attacks on the federal government in a manner that cannot be for any other purpose than reaching and influencing possible jurors who, if this matter goes to trial, would be the triers of fact," Marquis wrote.

Twenty-five defendants have been indicted on a single federal charge of conspiring to impede federal officers from working at the Malheur National Wildlife

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One more chance for Nicholson reversal?

Cannon Beach foes say it's not 'the Cannon Beach way'

By LYRA FONTAINE
EO Media Group

CANNON BEACH—Will this be the final word? After a City Council approval and a Land Use Board of Appeals decision, opponents of a four-home project on Laurel Street hope councilors will reverse themselves Tuesday night.

The City Council will hold a public hearing and consider

final approval for the residential development.

The meeting may be the last time opponents have to make their case against the project by Cannon Beach and Portland resident Jeff Nicholson. The application was returned to the council after the city's Planning Commission found flaws with the proposal.

"I'm just plugging along and we've been over this for a year and a half," Nicholson said. "I've done so much beyond what was asked for in order to pacify the Planning Commis-

sion," he said. "I'm just jumping through hoops and I fully expect City Council to give final approval."

The city approved preliminary plans for the project in March 2015. The decision was upheld by the state's Land Use Board of Appeals.

But after outcry from neighbors and Friends of Cannon Beach, a nonprofit group formed to fight the project, the Planning Commission reviewed and found flaws with the application.



Jeff Nicholson

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Erick Bengel/The Daily Astorian

A home located on the 0.57-acre property owned by Jeff Nicholson.

