

## Warrenton denies LNG terminal, OKs pipeline

Oregon LNG expected to appeal decision

By ERICK BENDEL  
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — A hearings officer has denied the land use applications for Oregon LNG's proposed terminal on the Skipanon Peninsula, stating that the project will adversely impact fish habitat and fishing activity in the Lower Columbia River Estuary.

However, the hearings officer approved, with conditions, the separate applications for 2 miles of the

pipeline that would serve the terminal.

The long-awaited pair of decisions from Daniel Kearns, a city-appointed land use attorney from Portland, came Friday morning, six months after scores of people testified for and against the \$6 billion project over a two-day hearing at the Warrenton Community Center.

The rejection of the terminal contradicts a recommendation for approval by Warrenton Planning Director Skip Urling.

Asked if he was surprised that

Kearns reached a different decision on the terminal than Urling did, Mayor Mark Kujala said he didn't know what to anticipate.

"I think that it shows that it's a complex matter, and it was a complex decision — it's 96 pages," he said.

Oregon LNG could not be reached for comment.

"The hearings officer roundly rejected the terminal on a number of really important grounds," said Brett VandenHeuvel, executive director of Columbia Riverkeeper, the Hood

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## Terminal would impede fishing and impact fish

By ERICK BENDEL  
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Oregon LNG has so far failed to prove that a liquefied natural gas terminal would not irreversibly damage the ecology of the Lower Columbia River Estuary, or that the company's proposed mitigation measures would

soften the impact of the development project.

What's more, the terminal would likely disrupt recreational fishing and unreasonably interfere in people's right to use the area by harming fish habitat, a state-recognized public resource.

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# FINAL CLASH

## Astoria, Seaside contest will seal deal for state

For Fishermen, it's been a spell

The Daily Astorian

Welcome back, Astoria. A school that was once a regular in state basketball tournaments is making a triumphant return, as the Fishermen will be a part of the Big Dance for the first time since the 2001-02 season.

With their defense-inspired, 42-30 win over Cascade in the Class 4A boys' game at the Brick House, the Fishermen have finally moved past the Sweet 16.

Astoria advances to the 2016 state tournament, where the Fishermen will face (guess who?) Seaside, 8:15 p.m. next Thursday at Liberty High School in Hillsboro.

The Gulls cruised past La Grande, 58-43 (see story below).

Things have changed a bit since Astoria's last trip to a state tournament — the site, for one thing. It's not Corvallis, and it's not Eugene (or Willamette University, for the old-timers). After a 14-year absence and some pretty lean years, head coach Kevin Goin doesn't care where it is ... his team will be there.

"I'm really happy to go back," said Goin, who has a few Hillsboro family connections. "It's a great atmosphere, and I think our kids and fans will embrace it."

Most of Goin's players, meanwhile, were only 1 or 2 years old when Astoria was last part of a state tournament.

"Like I told the kids, we have a five-game season and we're 2-0," he said. "And you've got three more, hopefully. You're winning some hardware, and playing for some hardware."

### Comeback in the third

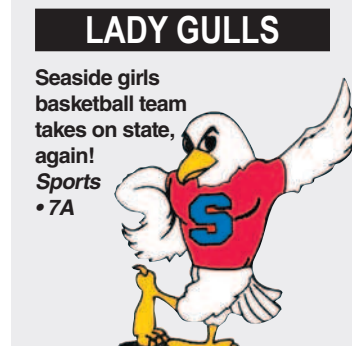
The trip to Hillsboro was looking iffy for the Fishermen early in the third quarter of Saturday's game.

Cascade held a 25-19 advantage in the opening minute of the second half.

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Photos by Joshua Bessix/The Daily Astorian  
Astoria's Fridtjof Fremstad, No. 12, puts up a shot around Cascade's Garrett Coffey, No. 25, during the basketball game at Astoria High School on Saturday. View more photos at [www.dailyastorian.com](http://www.dailyastorian.com)



**LADY GULLS**  
Seaside girls basketball team takes on state, again!  
Sports • 7A  
Astoria's Ryan Palek and Clay Williams celebrate after the game against Cascade at Astoria High School on Saturday.

## A grave letdown

At Ocean View Cemetery, family's trees got the ax

By DERRICK DePLEDGE  
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — When Anne and Clive Clarke visited their daughter's grave at Ocean View Cemetery on a Sunday in late February, they were shattered by what was missing.

Some of the evergreen trees they planted in Tara Valentine Clarke's memory had been cut down. "We were devastated," said Anne Clarke, who lives with her husband in Mount Vernon, Washington, and has family roots in Astoria. "It was like a desecration."

A decade ago, the Clarks say, they were given permission by a former cemetery superintendent to plant trees near the plots they have purchased for their family. The Astoria Parks and Recreation Department, which oversees the cemetery for the city, found that some of the trees needed to be removed because they encroached on other plots and were making maintenance difficult.

Unable to find any written documentation authorizing the planting, and uncertain about which family planted the trees, the city's parks staff uprooted the evergreens.

Ocean View's rules empower the city to remove trees, shrubs, plants and flowers when they do not conform to cemetery standards, but the Parks and Recreation Department understands the Clarks' disgusted reaction.

"We had no idea who had planted these very young trees at the cemetery," said Angela Cosby, the director of the Parks and Recreation Department. "We had nobody to contact or what to do with when we remove them or to give anybody a heads-up."

"So then when the Clarks came out a few months after we removed them to visit their daughter's site and see the circle of trees that they had planted, to find most of them removed, they were pretty sad. "Understandably."

### Perpetual care, little money

Last year, the Astoria City Council made improvements at Ocean View a goal after complaints from plot owners and the public that staff and budget cuts during the recession had left the cemetery in poor condition.

Councilors agreed to significantly increase burial and cremation fees — the first fee increases in 19 years — to help offset the city's annual subsidy.

The City Council also approved more than \$70,000 for weed eradication and reseeded at Ocean View.

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## Astoria woman rakes in \$7.8 million jackpot

The Daily Astorian

Pam Allen, who has an Astoria flower stand, is the latest Megabucks millionaire.

Allen put \$7 into an Oregon Lottery vending machine Wednesday at the Fred Meyer in Warrenton, state lottery officials say. She purchased three \$2 Scratch-its, and had \$1 left over. She spent the dollar on a single quick-pick Megabucks ticket.

The ticket was worth \$7.8 million.

On Thursday morning, Allen checked her Scratch-its and Megabucks ticket at Fred Meyer. The word "Jackpot" appeared on the screen when she checked the Megabucks ticket.

Not knowing exactly what that meant, Allen went out to her car in the parking lot and called her best friend to check the numbers in the newspaper.

"I wrote the numbers on a scratch paper I found in the car, and checked, and I told her I had all six numbers," Allen said. "She started crying and I started screaming, it was cool."

Allen called her husband, Curt, who thought it was a mistake, and also called her son and woke him up after he worked a graveyard shift. The three of them got in the car and drove to Salem.

"Buying the ticket really was an afterthought," Pam Allen said when she claimed her prize at the lottery office in



Submitted Photo  
Curt and Pam Allen of Astoria.

Salem Thursday afternoon.

By winning the \$7.8 million jackpot, Allen became Oregon's 254th Megabucks millionaire. Allen opted to take the one-time

lump sum cash payment option, and took home approximately \$2.6 million after taxes.

Allen is a lifelong resident of Astoria and she is going to use

the money to fund her retirement, although she still plans to keep the flower stand she operates.

"I love my flowers," she said. "I'm not going to give those up."

The winning numbers were 4-8-11-27-42-43 for the Wednesday drawing.

Megabucks numbers are drawn every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

The Fred Meyer in Warrenton will receive a 1-percent bonus for selling the winning ticket, bringing in \$78,000 to the store located off U.S. Highway 101.

Allen is the first player this year to win a Megabucks jackpot.

