



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

A RARE SEAT ON THE COURT

Primary replaces Judge Nelson, who is retiring from the Circuit Court bench

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

Voters this spring have a rare opportunity to fill an open Clatsop County Circuit Court judgeship that has been held by Philip Nelson, the county's longest serving elected official.

Nelson is retiring this year after 24 years on the bench.

Three candidates have filed to replace him: David Goldthorpe of Warrenton, a deputy district attorney; Dawn McIntosh of Gearhart, a lawyer who works for McIntosh & Long in Gearhart; and Ronald Woltjer of Astoria, a municipal court judge for Warrenton, Seaside and Cannon Beach.

Each candidate has worked as a prosecutor in the District Attorney's Office. They all support continuing Nelson's drug treatment court program. Their differences are in their past experiences.

They each sat down with The Daily Astorian in advance of the May 17 primary to talk about their visions for what it takes to be a Circuit Court judge.



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian
David Goldthorpe is a Clatsop County deputy district attorney.

Goldthorpe extols experience

The Daily Astorian

David Goldthorpe has not worked as many years as a lawyer compared to the other candidates for judge, but he said his experience is more wide ranging.

He is the only candidate to clerk for a Circuit Court judge, and the only prosecutor he knows that has worked in a prison.

Before his legal career, Goldthorpe spent a year as a corrections officer at the Idaho State Correctional Institution, a medium-security prison south of Boise, Idaho. One day he would be in the tower with a rifle keeping watch over the inmates.

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DAVID GOLDTHORPE

Age: 34
Residence: Warrenton
Occupation: Deputy district attorney for Clatsop County
Education: Law degree from Willamette University; bachelor's degree from Brigham Young University.
Length of time in Clatsop County: 7 years
Prior experience: Judicial clerk for Multnomah County Judge Jerry Hodson; Marion County District Attorney's Office certified law clerk; Idaho Department of Correction officer.



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian
Dawn McIntosh is a lawyer and partner at McIntosh & Long in Gearhart.

McIntosh is ready day one

The Daily Astorian

Dawn McIntosh has worked as a courtroom lawyer for nearly 24 years.

After years of litigating, McIntosh says, she is ready to preside from the bench.

"I believe I have the experience, the training, the background, the temperament and the ability to do it," she said. "They can start scheduling me cases on day one."

Her confidence to hit the ground running comes from an extensive career that began in the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office, where she was tasked with handling child-abuse cases.

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DAWN McINTOSH

Age: 50
Residence: Gearhart
Occupation: Attorney and partner at McIntosh & Long
Education: Law degree from Lewis and Clark College; bachelor's degree from Willamette University.
Length of time in Clatsop County: 18 years
Prior experience: Attorney and partner at Campbell and Popkin; chief deputy district attorney in Clatsop County; Multnomah County District Attorney's Office violent crimes unit intern-deputy district attorney.



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian
Ronald Woltjer is a municipal court judge for Warrenton, Seaside and Cannon Beach.

Woltjer cites court background

The Daily Astorian

Ronald Woltjer is the only candidate for judge to preside in a courtroom.

Woltjer serves as a municipal court judge for Warrenton, Seaside and Cannon Beach. Municipal courts do not handle felonies — most people know them as the place to settle traffic infractions — but Woltjer said the courts handle a wide range of crimes from theft and criminal mischief to disorderly conduct.

Most people in a community only go to court maybe a couple times in their life, usually for traffic tickets or jury duty.

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RONALD WOLTJER

Age: 61
Residence: Astoria
Occupation: Municipal court judge for Warrenton, Seaside and Cannon Beach
Education: Law degree from Lewis and Clark College; bachelor's degree from Arizona State University; associate degree from Grand Rapids Junior College.
Length of time in Clatsop County: 25 years
Prior experience: Deputy district attorney for Clatsop County; attorney in private practice in Astoria.

Port awaits word on LNG lease

Oregon LNG holds Port land on the Skipanon Peninsula

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

The Port of Astoria is still waiting to learn the intentions of Oregon LNG, which sub-leases more than 90 acres from the agency on the Skipanon Peninsula in Warrenton but has abandoned a \$6 billion terminal and pipeline project.



The Daily Astorian/File Photo
The east side of the Skipanon Peninsula, right, was the proposed site for a liquefied natural gas export terminal to be built by Oregon LNG.

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Cops and pot, now neighbors in Seaside

New shop may be safest in Oregon

By R.J. MARX
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — Marijuana dispensaries in Oregon may not be located in residential neighborhoods or within 1,000 feet of schools or other dispensaries.

But nothing in state code prohibits their location next to a police station.

Seaside Police Department offices with a southern expo-

sure look directly onto the site of the city's newest pot shop, Oasis Cannabis at 1111 S. Holaday Drive.

"We wanted to buy a building in town, and we saw this available," Oasis Cannabis Manager Stephanie Schlip said. "When we saw this place, we thought it's next to a police station, it's secure. That's the big thing in the cannabis industry: security, and making sure all our public and employees are safe. And what better place could it be than a police station?"

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