

## Warrenton still 'open for business'



Balensifer wants to create a strategic plan for city's economy

By ERICK BENGEL  
*The Daily Astorian*

WARRENTON — In light of Oregon LNG's decision to ditch a proposed \$6 billion terminal and pipeline project on the Skipanon Peninsula, the City

Commission wants outside industries to know that Warrenton still welcomes business development.

Commissioner Henry Balensifer said the city should also devise a strategic plan for Warrenton's economy, a document that spells out the kind of businesses the community wants to encourage.

"We need to have a plan about what industries we want to see coming to our town," he said. "I believe we need to have an economic strategy for our

industrial lands, including our waterfront lands."

For 12 years, the liquefied natural gas project split the North Coast community into opposing factions.

Supporters wanted the jobs and tax revenue the energy company promised, while opponents cast the project as environmentally degrading and — given its location in a known earthquake and tsunami zone — possibly dangerous.

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## 'I always knew ... cops would kill him'

Ferry's mother: He was a sociopath and monster

By KYLE SPURR  
*The Daily Astorian*

The morning after Phillip Ferry shot and killed Seaside Police Sgt. Jason Goodding, police met with Ferry's mother, Barbara O'Malley, to explain that her son was dead.

O'Malley appeared almost relieved at the news, police said, and she called her son a sociopath and a monster. She started crying and grabbed both sides of her head, saying, "It's over. It's over. It's finally over?"

She told the officers that the nightmares she had of Ferry being killed by police had finally come true. "He destroyed everybody he was ever around," she said. "I always knew that the cops would kill him."

The encounter with Ferry's mother is one of several perspectives found in police reports compiled in an investigation into the fatal shooting. The full account, released Thursday, led District Attorney Josh Marquis to conclude the police shooting of Ferry was justified.

Interviews with family and friends depict Ferry, a habitual criminal, as someone who would rather die than go back to jail.

### Others speak out

Edna Viles, an acquaintance, told police she took Ferry to Sea Breeze restaurant the day of the shooting in February. He wanted to get money to buy things like cigarettes, she said.

She recalled a previous conversation when Ferry told her he would rather die than go back to jail.

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## ONE WHEEL WORKOUT

South County students take to unicycles for physical education



Photos by Joshua Bessex/EO Media Group

Thomas Jenkins, center, watches as Portia Butori unicycles through the gym at Gearhart Elementary School on Thursday.

By KATHERINE LACAZE  
*For The Daily Astorian*

GEARHART — Unicycling probably does not come to mind when you think about physical education at elementary school. An exception is in the Seaside School District.

Each fifth-grade physical education class at Gearhart Elementary School and Seaside Heights Elementary School completed a five-week unit focused on the unicycle this term.

PE teacher Brian Sigler, who has been with the school district about 27 years, pitched the idea last summer to Seaside Heights Elementary School Principal Sande Brown, who was supportive. The school got 10 unicycles and Sigler acquired an additional five.

With the cycles in hand, Sigler introduced the activity first to fifth-graders at Seaside Heights Elementary before moving on to Gearhart Elementary. Sigler eventually wants all the elementary-aged students to get unicycle experience in their PE classes — although that would require more



Instructor Brian Sigler, right, and Cameron Schulte, left, help Brody Hillman keep his balance while learning how to ride a unicycle at Gearhart Elementary School.

unicycles. However, "this has been a really nice start," he said, adding he wished he introduced the activity earlier.

"We've got some kids that have gotten really excited about unicycles," he said.

### Club forms

Sigler rode a unicycle as a hobby

for a couple years starting in fourth grade. When he started teaching the activity at Seaside Heights, he had not ridden in 40 years, but he said his background still made it easy to give demonstrations and instruct the students in the basics.

"It is a lifetime skill — once you learn, you really do not forget," he said.

The unit at Gearhart Elementary School ended earlier this month. However, Sigler received so much positive feedback from students he felt compelled to continue their opportunity to learn and practice. So, he started a unicycling club for all fifth-graders in the

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## What's in a name? Jim Saules, not Jim Crow

Washington effort afoot to change racist Wahkiakum names

By NATALIE ST. JOHN  
*EO Media Group*

WAHKIAKUM COUNTY, Wash. — In July 1841, black sailor James D. Saules jumped ship when the USS Peacock foundered on a spit in the mouth of the Columbia River. A multilingual fiddler, bar pilot, ship's captain and entrepreneur, Saules became well-known around the region and landed in the middle of two historic conflicts.

He was one of just two people known to have been publicly flogged in Astoria, and was probably the catalyst for Oregon's infamous black-exclusion policy. But all he got for his trouble were three Columbia River landmarks

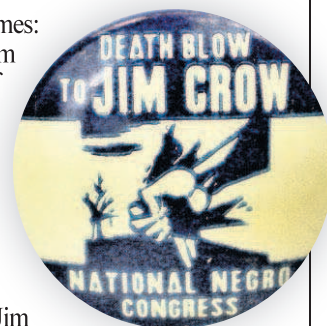
in Washington with miserably racist names: Jim Crow Creek, Jim Crow Hill and Jim Crow Point; and one on the Oregon side of the river, James Crow Sands.

That could change soon in Washington. State Sen. Pramila Jayapal, D-Seattle, recently proposed a coordinated effort to change 36 Washington place names that contain racial slurs like "squaw" and "coon."

Last week, Jayapal said the three Jim Crow places are a priority, because there's an obvious alternative — Saules' actual name.

However, her proposal has received "a mixed reaction" from locals.

Some, including two county commissioners, have defended the name as part of the county's "heritage" and dismissed Jayapal as a city-dwelling liberal who is trying to impose "political correctness."



Oddbits photo: The 1950s and '60s saw the rise of African-American groups like the National Negro Congress, which sought to end Jim Crow laws.

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## Pot shop nickname has Port leader all fired up

Port Astordam is a play on words

By EDWARD STRATTON  
*The Daily Astorian*

Port of Astoria Commissioner James Campbell takes exception to Port Astordam, the bottom half of a sign greeting travelers on Portway Street, with marijuana leaves on either side and a large green cross in the middle.

The sign marks the second Astoria location for marijuana retailer Sweet Relief Natural Medicine, which opened up on Portway Street above the city's first marijuana-growing business and just outside the Port's boundaries.

"I don't want a pot-growing organization stamping their name on the Port," Campbell said at a Tuesday meeting. "I think we should run it past our attorney. They can change their name. They don't need our name."

There might not be much to change. The name of the business on Portway is legally Sweet Relief West. Co-owner Oscar Nelson said Port Astordam is a nickname, a play on words between the location's proximity to the Port, Astoria and Amsterdam, the capital of the Netherlands and a popular marijuana tourism destination.

He said he hasn't received any complaints about Port Astordam from the city or Port so far. But Sweet Relief has faced a trademark tiff with the Tillamook County Creamery Association, which operates the Tillamook Cheese Factory.

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