



Submitted Photo

Firefighter Mike Johnson climbs the ladder after a seagull got caught on a kite string.

Seagull 'doing fine' after Cannon Beach rescue

By LYRA FONTAINE
The Daily Astorian

CANNON BEACH — After a passer-by saw a seagull hanging from a kite string on Washington Street, the Cannon Beach Police Department and Cannon Beach Fire and Rescue arrived at the scene.

"The seagull was caught in a kite string between the wires and pole," interim fire chief

Jim Stearns said.

The fire truck has a ladder tall enough to reach the bird.

Firefighter Mike Johnson climbed up the ladder, clipped the string and freed the bird.

The seagull was put in a cage and is now in the care of the Wildlife Center of the North Coast in Astoria.

"He seems to be doing fine right now. He's eating," said Linda Soquet at the wildlife

center. "This was quite a large bird. They're still keeping an eye on him."

A video of the rescue was filmed by Dave Pastor, the owner of Cannon Beach Liquor Store.

Johnson said it was the first animal rescue with the new ladder truck. "We do this when we have to and when we need to," Johnson said in the video.

Spring Chinook fishery reopens Friday

The Daily Astorian

Anglers can catch and keep spring Chinook salmon Friday through Sunday on a section of the Lower Columbia River under a three-day extension approved Wednesday by fishery managers from Washington state and Oregon.

Although the latest projection of returning upriver spring Chinook is down slightly from the preseason forecast, representatives from both states agreed it is still strong enough to allow at least one more opening — and perhaps more — in the lower river this year.

More than 2,300 upriver fish are still available for harvest under the current catch guideline, said Ron Roler,

Columbia River policy advisor for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. "We're hoping to reopen the fishery again prior to Memorial Day, but that will depend on the count of upriver fish passing Bonneville Dam."

This week's three-day extension will reopen the spring Chinook fishery from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upriver to Beacon Rock for boat anglers, with bank fishing allowed up to the deadline below the dam. Anglers are limited to one adult hatchery Chinook salmon as part of their daily limit of two adult fish.

Under permanent rules, anglers may retain hatchery Chinook jacks through June 15 from the Tongue Point/Rocky Point line upstream to the Interstate 5 bridge. Shad fishing is open up to Bonneville Dam and beyond.

Fishery managers now anticipate a return of 180,000 upriver spring Chinook to the Columbia River this year, down from 188,800 projected prior to the season.

Salmon and steelhead fishing remains closed until further notice above Bonneville Dam, but reopens for the summer Chinook season June 16 in waters above and below the dam under rules outlined in the Washington Sport Fishing rules pamphlet (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/regulations>).

Downtown cleanup on for Saturday

The Daily Astorian

The Astoria Downtown Historic District Association invites the community to help tidy up and plant up the downtown shopping area during the association's annual spring cleanup Saturday.

The cleanup crew will meet at 9 a.m. in the Columbia Bank parking lot at 11th and Duane streets, where materials will be handed out and cleanup tasks divvied up.

Volunteers will work on various projects throughout the historic district, including picking up trash, cleaning lamp posts and trash cans, and clearing moss.

People are encouraged to bring their own working gloves and additional tools to remove weeds and moss. The association will provide garbage bags and other cleaning

materials, as well as the hot dog lunch.

A free barbecue hot dog lunch will be served afterward.

Interested participants should sign up at www.facebook.com/astoriadowntown.

For additional questions, contact the association's executive director, Alana Garner, at alana@astoriadowntown.com or 503-791-7940.

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<p>ASTORIA AMERICAN LEGION Clatsop Post 12 1132 Exchange Street 325-5771</p>	<p>WELCOME TO ALL VETERANS, FAMILIES OF AND FRIENDS</p>

Republicans have uphill battle in statewide races

Pierce may have to separate himself from Trump

By PARIS ACHEN
Capital Bureau

Salem oncologist Bud Pierce surprised the political establishment Tuesday when he captured the Republican nomination for governor in a landslide victory over presumed front-runner and Lake Oswego businessman Allen Alley.

The political newcomer now faces an uphill battle against Democratic Gov. Kate Brown, a seasoned politician who is seeking election to the office she inherited when John Kitzhaber resigned last year.

In addition to campaigning in a state with a Democratic majority, Pierce, 59, faces an opposing party eager to compare him to New York billionaire Donald Trump, the presumptive GOP nominee for president.

"People do not know him, nor are they inclined to vote for a Republican," said Jim Moore, politics professor and director of the Tom McCall Center for Policy Innovation at Pacific University. "His centrist appeal will be difficult to sell with Trump at the top of the ticket. He will have to separate himself from the national campaign narrative."

Brown barely campaigned for the primary yet still won her party's nomination with 84 percent of the vote against five mostly unknown opponents. She will remain focused on governing and serving the state but will ramp up her campaign every month leading up to the general election in November, said Liz Accola Meunier, a spokeswoman for Brown's campaign.

'Moving the state forward'

"The governor is really looking forward to talking about her vision for moving the state forward and looking forward to having a chance to talk about her vision, and we believe when voters get a chance to compare her to her opponent that they will choose her," Meunier said.

With experience in state government and as a candidate for statewide office, Alley, 61, was the presumed front-runner in the race for the GOP nomination.

But Pierce's campaign against Alley showed that higher spending in both money and time can pay dividends with the electorate. Pierce filed for election six months earlier than Alley, invested more than \$1 million of his own money into his campaign and traveled around the state to achieve name recognition that he lacked when he first entered the race.

Pierce anticipates he will need \$8 million to \$10 million to run an adequate campaign against Brown.

"The reason I am running is a lot of us feel the current state leadership is failing us," Pierce said. "The current state leadership is highly experienced. The issue isn't experience. The issue is the governor really a motivator and a leader?"

Secretary of state

Democrat Oregon Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian and former Republican state Rep. Dennis Richardson will face each other in the November general election for secretary of state.

"Richardson is running on a platform that Democrats are

corrupt; Avakian is running on a platform that the job ought to include a lot of duties that are not part of the official role of the secretary of state," Moore said.

"Both are damaged: Richardson because of his poor run against Kitzhaber (for governor in 2014), and Avakian because of the hard hits he took in the primary. But, until proven otherwise, it is extremely hard for a Republican to win in Oregon," Moore said.

Avakian prevailed with 39 percent of the vote over state Rep. Val Hoyle, D-Eugene, who had 33 percent and state Sen. Richard Devlin, D-Tualatin, with 27 percent.

Richardson, who defeated Lane County Commissioner Sid Leiken for the Republican nomination, said Tuesday night that he was ready to campaign against Avakian based on their different views on the role of the secretary of state.

"Brad Avakian wants to investigate and go after private businesses," Richardson said, referring to Avakian's plan to have state auditors begin investigating complaints against state contractors. "My opinion is the secretary of state should be rolling out the red carpet to businesses in other states and countries, as well as in Oregon."

Richardson said the Audits Division in the Secretary of State's Office is supposed to review state programs in order to "show that the people's money is well spent and (Avakian's) approach will be to ignore the waste that is taking place in public departments and programs and go after private businesses."

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