

Gearhart’s vacation rental plan gets scrutiny

State examines plan to show tax returns

By R.J. MARX
The Daily Astorian

GEARHART — Gearhart is ready to enact regulations on vacation rentals, but a key aspect of the proposal may undergo further review.

A plan to require short-term property owners to show proof of filing a 2015 state lodging tax return with the state Department of Revenue is still uncertain.

“We still need to have conversations with them how about how exactly we would be able to partner to make this happen,” Bob Estabrook, public information officer with the Department of Revenue, said Friday.

Gearhart already charges a 7 percent lodging tax and Oregon requires a state lodging tax of 1 percent be paid on a quarterly basis.

After July 1, that tax will increase to 1.8 percent, with the additional funds to pay for

state tourism promotion and the Eugene Civic Stadium.

According to the Gearhart Planning Commission proposal, property owners who can show they paid their state lodging tax in 2015 will be eligible to apply for a vacation rental permit, as long as they meet city standards for off-site parking, septic systems and other health and safety codes.

Confidentiality

“The thing that makes this tricky is that our lodging tax information about taxpayers is kept at the same level of confidentiality that it is for personal income taxes,” Estabrook said. “So we don’t have a way we can share with the city, ‘These people are compliant, these people are not.’ The system would have to be set up in a way where taxpayers get some kind of certification from us and then they could provide that to the city.”

Short-term rentals require the filing of a quarterly return for the period in which the house is rented as an income property, Estabrook said.

If the property is only rented during certain months,

a return would be required for those months only.

“If you’re a hotel and open 365 days a year, you’re filing returns for every single quarter,” Estabrook said. “People with one home or two homes may not always have a reason to file.”

What kind of system Gearhart officials set up is “up to them,” Estabrook said. “We want to have some kind of conversation about what kind of information they’re going to get in what we’re able to certify. There’s not going to be any kind of enforcement mechanism for us because we don’t have a role with local lodging taxes or permitting.

A recommendation

“The Planning Commission has gone through their paces and made a recommendation to the City Council, but it’s just that — a recommendation,” City Administrator Chad Sweet said. “They did a lot of heavy lifting and went through a lot of these regulations, and really honed them down. Now it’s up to the City Council to go along with the regulations, change the recommendations,

or to come up with something completely different. That’s their prerogative.”

The regulations “look solid,” Sweet said.

“Common sense regulations, the safety rules, limiting the 30- or 60-day sign-up period, setting the limit at what that comes to, are all probably going to do well,” Sweet said. “The attrition factor will also do well to bring it to the number the community sees fit over time.”

The plan does not allow homeowners to transfer their short-term rental permit after a property is sold.

“I think we’re very preliminary in talking with them,” Estabrook said. “This is a new path they’re trying to blaze in terms of getting a connection between local governments and the state tax. It’ll take some thinking and talking to figure out how we might be able to do that. We don’t have a, ‘We think that’s a good idea or a bad idea’ opinion. It’s something from an administrative perspective we need to work out with them.”

The City Council plans to discuss the proposed short-term rental rules in July.

New Cannon Beach fire chief wants to bring out potential

Benedict to take the helm

By LYRA FONTAINE
The Daily Astorian

CANNON BEACH — After an in-depth selection process, former Pendleton fire marshal and Helix fire district chief Matt Benedict has accepted the position of fire chief at the Cannon Beach Rural Fire Protection District.

“I’m just excited to be here,” he said. “This is the last step for me, to become a fire chief in a large organization.”

Benedict, 47, will begin June 1, but is currently in Cannon Beach transitioning into his new position with Interim Fire Chief Jim Stearns.

His salary will be \$80,000. Cannon Beach has been without a permanent fire chief since October, when former chief Mike Balzer was dismissed.

“The department seems to have a lot of potential,” Benedict said. “I want to help them get to that point to bring out all the potential to make us one of the premier agencies on the North Coast.”

Benedict was chosen out of 20 applicants from across the country. He emerged as one of three finalists after interviews from an area fire chiefs’ panel and a Cannon Beach citizen panel.



Matt Benedict

A start in Pendleton

Benedict began his career in 1994 as firefighter paramedic for Pendleton Fire District. He was promoted to lieutenant paramedic, captain paramedic, then assistant chief and fire marshal in 2014. For six years, he was also chief of the Helix fire district.

“We’re really excited to have Matt here,” Stearns said. “He brings professionalism and a drive in the fire service that I think will be very beneficial to the community.”

Benedict started in Pendleton when Stearns was Hermiston’s fire chief.

“I’ve had the benefit of

knowing Matt since he started in the fire service,” Stearns said. “I was in a neighboring agency and got to watch Matt come up through the ranks pretty quickly within the organization.”

Born and raised in Portland, Benedict said he is excited to live on the North Coast, where he vacationed as a child. He also looks forward to being closer to family in Portland.

“The people I’ve met down here have been very friendly and have so far welcomed me to the community,” he said.

After selling their Helix home, Benedict and wife Amanda, an emergency room nurse, will rent or buy in the Cannon Beach area. They have four children who will visit often.

Man sentenced for attempted sex abuse

The Daily Astorian

A Clatskanie man was convicted Friday for attempting to sexually abuse a 13-year-old girl when he was 18 and living in Knappa.

Dillon Jacob Leroy Sutton, 22, was sentenced in Clatsop County Circuit Court to 30 days in jail and four years probation. If he violates probation, he could face three years in prison.

Sutton pleaded no con-

test last month to first-degree attempted sex abuse, a class C felony. Other charges of second-degree rape and second-degree unlawful sexual penetration were dismissed.

The attempted sex abuse

occurred in February 2012. Sutton was arraigned on the charges in November.

As part of his sentence, Sutton is ordered to have no contact with the victim or her family, and he must register as a sex offender.

Corporate sales tax heads to November ballot

Union-backed measure would help finance education, health care

By PARIS ACHEN
Capital Bureau

SALEM — The union-backed Our Oregon has surpassed the threshold for signatures required to place a corporate sales tax measure on November’s ballot.

The campaign has collected 125,000 signatures and planned to submit the last batch to the Oregon secretary of state’s office Friday for verification, said Our Oregon spokeswoman Katherine Driessen.

Only 88,184 signatures are required to place the measure on the ballot.

“Everyone is pretty thrilled, and it is a real showing of support for our campaign,” Driessen said. “Our volunteers are fanning out around the state and really talking to voters everywhere and feeling the goal of the campaign resonates with Oregon citizens.”

The next step for the campaign is to build support for the measure, she said. Supporters hope to see the \$5.2 billion in biennial revenue from the tax go toward education, health care and senior services.

Business groups have strongly opposed the measure, saying the tax will drive up consumer prices and erode private sector jobs. The Legislative Revenue Office is scheduled to report on the projected impacts of the corporate tax during legislative hearings Monday.

The report will examine the effects on wages, private and public sector employment, prices and other economic indicators.

Sales over \$25 million
Often referred to as a gross receipts tax, the 2.5

percent levy would apply to certain corporations with annual sales exceeding \$25 million. The tax would affect about 1,000 of Oregon’s 30,000 corporations, said Legislative Revenue Officer Paul Warner.

But business leaders said the trickle-down effect of the tax — in the form of higher prices — will hurt consumers, employees and businesses of every size.

“Everywhere you have a gross receipts tax of this nature the consensus among economists is who pays it is you and me and small business and families, and we think that picture will be painted very vividly on Monday — that Oregon families are going to be paying this \$5.2 billion tax increase,” said Ryan Deckert, president of the Oregon Business Association.

Alternatives floated

Gov. Kate Brown and state House Speaker Tina Kotek, D-Portland, declined to hold a special session this year to negotiate a more moderate alternative to the steep tax increase.

State Sen. Mark Hass, D-Beaverton, proposed an alternative during the February legislative session, but his bill never reached the floor of either chamber.

“I think after Monday it will start to get real,” Hass said of the upcoming report. “I think there is a chance for a compromise, and I think there is an opportunity for sensible people to get together to look at coming up with an alternative to what is going to be a very contentious, divisive campaign.”

Sen. Richard Devlin, D-Tualatin, said in April that he is working on alternative to the tax measure but did not return repeated calls for details from the Pamplin Media Group/EO Media Group Capital Bureau.

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TV LISTINGS

Evening listings
MONDAY

MONDAY EVENING														MAY 23	
A	L	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30		
2	KATU	(2) KATU News at 6		Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Dancing With the Stars Pt. 1 of 2 (N)		The Bachelorette	Former Bachelorettes offer some practical advice. (SP) (N)	KATU News at 11	(35) Jimmy Kimmel				
4	KOMO	(4) KOMO 4 News		Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy!	Dancing With the Stars Pt. 1 of 2 (N)		The Bachelorette	Former Bachelorettes offer some practical advice. (SP) (N)	KOMO 4 News	(35) Jimmy Kimmel				
5	KING	(5) NBC Nightly News	KING 5 News	KING 5 News	Evening	The Voice "Live Finale, Part 1" The remaining artists perform live. Pt. 1 of 2 (N)		Blind "Why Await Life's End" (SF) (N)		KING 5 News	(35) Tonight Show				
6	KOIN	(6) KOIN 6 News at 6	CBS Evening News	Extra	Ent. Tonight	Price R. "Survivor Themed Special" (N)		Odd Couple (N)	Couple (SF) (N)	..Interest "A More Perfect Union" (N)		KOIN 6 News @ 11	(35) S. Colbert		
7	KIRO	(7) KIRO 7 News	CBS Evening News	The Insider	Ent. Tonight	Price R. "Survivor Themed Special" (N)		Odd Couple (N)	Couple (SF) (N)	..Interest "A More Perfect Union" (N)		KIRO News	(35) S. Colbert		
8	KGW	(8) KGW News at 6:00 p.m.		Live at Seven	Inside Edition	The Voice "Live Finale, Part 1" The remaining artists perform live. Pt. 1 of 2 (N)		Blind "Why Await Life's End" (SF) (N)		KGW News at 11	(35) Tonight Show				
9	KRCW	(9) Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Modern Family	Modern Family	Reign "Safe Passage" (N)		Whose (SP) (N)	Whose Line (N)	KGW News at 10	(35) Two 1/2 Men	(05) Two 1/2 Men	(35) King of Hill		
10	KOPB	(10) This Old House	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour		Antique "Cleveland (Hour Three)" (N)		Ore.Exp. "Oregon Shakespeare Festival"		Antiques Rd. "Baton Rouge (Hour Two)"		POV "The Return" (N)			
12	KPTV	(12) 6 O'Clock News		Family Feud	Family Feud	Gotham "Transference" (SF) (N)		HoudiniDoyle "Spring-Heel'd Jack" (N)		10 O'Clock News		11 O'Clock News	Loves Ray		
13	KPDx	(13) Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	FOX 12's 8 O'Clock News on PDX-TV		FOX 12's 9 O'Clock News on PDX-TV		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Care"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Ridicule"			
13	KCPQ	(13) Name Game	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Gotham "Transference" (SF) (N)		HoudiniDoyle "Spring-Heel'd Jack" (N)		Q13 News at 10		Q13 News	Modern Family		
20	TBS	(20) American Dad	American Dad	Family Guy	Family Guy	Modern Family	American Dad (N)	The Detour (N)		Family Guy	Full Frontal (N)	Conan (N)			
22	KZJL	(22) Two and a Half	Two and a Half	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	Modern Family	Modern Family	Q13 News at 9		Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Friends	Friends		
29	ESPN	(29) NBA Basketball Playoffs (L)		SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter			
30	ESPN2	(30) ESPN Films "Catching Hell"		Baseball Tonight (L)		30 for 30 "Jordan Rides the Bus"		Baseball Tonight (L)		NBA Tonight	Jalen & Jacoby (N)	NFL Live			
31	NICK	(31) SpongeBob	Henry Danger	Henry Danger	The Thundermans	The Thundermans	NickyRickyDicky	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Friends	Friends		
32	DISN	(32) K.C. Undercover	Austin & Ally	Jessie	Liv and Maddie	Stuck in Middle	Bunk'd	K.C. Undercover	Friends Whenever	Liv and Maddie	Bunk'd	Girl Meets World	Stuck in Middle		
34	FAM	(34) ★★ Mean Girls (04, Comedy/Drama)	Rachel McAdams, Tina Fey, Lindsay Lohan.			★★ The Spectacular Now (13) Shailene Woodley, Kyle Chandler, Miles Teller.				Monica the Medium (N)		The 700 Club			
35	FMC	(35) (5:55) The Croods (13, Animated)	Emma Stone, Nicolas Cage.			★★★ Life of Pi (2012, Fantasy) Irrfan Khan, Adil Hussain, Suraj Sharma.				(20) FXM Presents	★★★ Life of Pi (2012, Fantasy) Irrfan Khan, Suraj Sharma.				
36	LIFE	(36) A Little Bit of Heaven (11) Gael Garcia Bernal, Kathy Bates, Kate Hudson.				★★ Friends With Benefits (2011, Comedy) Justin Timberlake, Patricia Clarkson, Mila Kunis.				UnREAL (N)		Little Women: NY			
38	ROOT	(38) Mariners Access	MarinersPre-game	MLB Baseball	Oakland Athletics at Seattle Mariners Site: Safeco Field -- Seattle, Wash. (L)					Post-game	MLB Baseball	Oakland Athletics at Seattle Mariners			
39	FS1	(39) (5:00) MLB Baseball	Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim at Texas Rangers (L)			MLB Whiparound (L)		Fox Sports Live	TMZ Sports (N)	Fox Sports Live	TMZ Sports	Fox Sports Live	Fox Sports Live		
43	SPIKE	(43) Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops		
44	COM	(44) Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	The Daily Show (N)	Nightly Show (N)		
45	HIST	(45) A. Pickers "Legend of the Lost Indian"		Amer. Pickers "If You Talk Nice to Me"		American Pickers "Cammy Camaro"		Roots (N) (L:05) American Pickers		(05) Amer. Pickers	"Jersey's Jackpot"	(05) Amer. Pickers	"Substitute Picker"		
46	A&E	(46) The First 48 "Jacked/ Fallen Idol"		The First 48		(05) The First 48		First 48 "The House on Madrona Street"		(05) Amer. Pickers	"Old Wounds"	(05) The First 48			
47	TLC	(47) Inside Me "A Holiday in the Hospital"		To Be Announced		Little People "Big Fans, Big Questions"		Little People, Big World		Little People	"Seeds of Change"	Little People	"Big Fans, Big Questions"		
48	DISC	(48) Street Outlaws		Street Outlaws		Street Outlaws "Sharks After Dark" (N)		Street Outlaws "Daddy Day Car" (N)		Fat 'N Furious "Monster Riviera" (N)		Street Outlaws	"Daddy Day Car"		
49	NGEO	(49) Wicked Tuna "The Final Fishdown"		Port Protect "Legends in the Woods"		Port Protection "Rough Waters"		Mygrations "Into the Unknown" (P) (N)		Port Protection "The Odyssey" (N)		Mygrations	"Into the Unknown"		
50	TNT	(50) (4:00) ★★ The Green Mile (1999, Drama)	David Morse, Bonnie Hunt, Tom Hanks.			★★★ The Town (2010, Action)	Rebecca Hall, Jon Hamm, Ben Affleck.				★★ The Lincoln Lawyer (11) Matthew McConaughey.				
51	AMC	(51) (4:00) The Hunt for Red October		★★ Open Range (2003, Western)	Kevin Costner, Annette Bening, Robert Duvall.					TURN: Washington's Spies (N)		TURN: Washington's Spies			
52	USA	(52) NCIS "Rock and a Hard Place"		NCIS "The Searchers"		WWE Monday Night Raw				Chopped "Knife Strife"		Chopped "Test Tendon Intentions"			
53	FOOD	(53) Diners, Drive-Ins	Diners, Drive-Ins	Diners, Drive-Ins	"Legends of Texas"	Kids BBQ "Meat the Chefs" (P) (N)		Diners "Knockout Burger Joints" (N)		House Hunters (N)	House Hunters	TinyHouseHunters	TinyHouseHunters		
54	HGTV	(54) Love It or List It		Love It or List It		Listed Sisters "Home Schooled" (N)		Tiny House, Big (N)	Tiny House, Big (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters	TinyHouseHunters	TinyHouseHunters		
56	FX	(56) (5:30) ★★ Iron Man 2 (10) Don Cheadle, Gwyneth Paltrow, Robert Downey Jr..				★★ X-Men: The Last Stand (06) Famke Janssen, Hugh Jackman, Patrick Stewart.				★★★ Iron Man 2 (10, Action) Don Cheadle, Gwyneth Paltrow, Robert Downey Jr..					
57	CNN	(57) Why They Hate Us		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		Anderson Cooper 360		Why They Hate Us		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom			
58	FNC	(58) The Kelly File with Megyn Kelly		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File with Megyn Kelly		Hannity		On the Record			
61	CNBC	(61) Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Undercover Boss "Maaco"		Undercover Boss "Twin Peaks"		Under Boss "MGM Grand Las Vegas"		Paid Program	Paid Program		
63	BRAY	(63) Shahs "A Cat-astrophic Night"		Shahs "Surprise! You're Married"		S. Charm "Blue Ridge Mountain Blues"		Southern Charm "Whit's End" (N)		Real Wives Dallas "Black and Blues" (N)		WatchWhat (N)	Southern Charm		
64	TCM	(64) (5:00) Green Eyes (13) Shirley Grey.		★★★★ Hoop Dreams (1994, Documentary)	Arthur Agee, Emma Gates, William Gates.					Promise (1986, Drama) James Garner, Laurie Piper, James Woods.					
65	SYFY	(65) Movie	★★★ The Bourne	Supremacy (2004, Suspense)	Franka Potente, Brian Cox, Matt Damon.			12 Monkeys "Immortal" (N)		Hunters "Kissing the Machine" (N)		Warm Bodies (13, Com)	Nicholas Hoult.		
162	RFD	(162) American Rancher	Red Steagall	Horse Master	Inside Reining	Craig Cameron	Rural Eve. News	Rural America "Live" "Zylkene"		American Rancher	Red Steagall	Product Showcase			



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