



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

An apartment complex is being proposed on land north of Lewis and Clark Elementary School. The land is seen here Tuesday in Miles Crossing.

## 'Godsend' or 'sweetheart deal'?

Miles Crossing apartments on pause as county weighs needs, neighbor doubts

By KYLE SPURR  
The Daily Astorian

**A** proposal to build a 168-unit apartment complex in the Miles Crossing neighborhood was heard Tuesday by the Clatsop County Planning Commission.

Despite support from local leaders calling the development a godsend to help combat the county's housing crisis, the commission tabled the decision until next month.

Commissioners wanted more time to consider concerns from neighbors about traffic impacts and a possible strain on the sewer system. Other issues involve overflow parking and how the rural neighborhood will handle more than 300 new residents.

The Planning Commission will make the final decision. Appeals are heard by the county Board of Commissioners.

"What I don't want to see happen here is that we go ahead and make approvals on land use, and increasing capacity on systems that can't handle it," Commissioner Thomas Merrell said.

### Vibrant community

Developer Richard Krueger plans to build the large apartment complex on 10.4 acres between Lewis and Clark Elementary School and Lewis and Clark Golf & RV Resort.

The Bella Ridge Apartments would have seven buildings, each with 24 two-bedroom units. Krueger estimates the units will be about 800 square feet and cost between \$885 and \$950 per month to rent. Construction will be done in three phases, he said.

See APARTMENTS, Page 10A



Submitted Photo

An aerial view of the Miles Crossing area slated for a large apartment complex.



Kyle Spurr/The Daily Astorian

Developer Richard Krueger, right, and consultant Mike Weston present a plan to build a 168-unit apartment complex in the Miles Crossing neighborhood.

**'What I don't want to see happen here is that we go ahead and make approvals on land use, and increasing capacity on systems that can't handle it.'**

Thomas Merrell  
Commissioner

## Future of dam, bridge in doubt

Warrenton City Commission reverses course

By DERRICK DePLEDGE  
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The Warrenton City Commission backed away Tuesday night from a \$1.2 million deal to remove the Eighth Street Dam but preserve an emergency access bridge over the Skipanon River.

The commission had twice approved the concept, but buckled after a flurry of complaints from Mayor Mark Kujala's family, who own property near the dam, and Warrenton Fiber, the politically influential timber company led by the Nygaard family.

The Skipanon Water Control District, which owns the dam and considers the structure obsolete and a liability, could still move forward with demolition without the bridge.

"So you either get something for free, or you get nothing," Bruce Francis, the vice chairman of the water district, warned the commission before the vote.

See DAM, Page 7A

## State bar dismisses Marquis' complaint

DA accused Bundy lawyers of ethics abuses

By DERRICK DePLEDGE  
The Daily Astorian

The Oregon State Bar on Tuesday dismissed an ethics complaint by Clatsop County District Attorney Josh Marquis against Eugene lawyers representing Ammon Bundy — who led the armed occupation at a federal wildlife refuge in Oregon this year — finding that public comments by the attorneys did not influence an imminent fact-finding process.

Marquis claimed Mike Arnold and Lissa Casey sought to influence potential jurors in the federal case against Bundy through news conferences and videos, a "gross abuse" of the restrictions on attorneys from making prejudicial statements.

Marquis has appealed to the state bar's general counsel. The district attorney argues that the state bar's dismissal appears to be based on a finding that no judge was influenced by the attorneys' comments, when his complaint centered on the impact on prospective jurors in the federal trial in September.

See COMPLAINT, Page 7A

## 'Passion of movement' is the key for PE teacher

Every Wednesday and Friday for the next couple of weeks, The Daily Astorian features an area teacher as we head toward graduation and summer break.

### Sarah Kangas

Warrenton Grade School, kindergarten through fifth grade physical education

### Why did you become a teacher, and what was your biggest surprise?

What attracted me the most to becoming a teacher, could be positive influence I could have on my students. I knew that I wanted to work in a profession where I could share my love and passion of movement and exercise with the people around me.

It's amazing to see what can happen when students are given opportunities to learn and grow in a safe and supportive environment. The biggest surprise about being a teacher is seeing the transformation in each student as they grow from the beginning to the end of the school year. It's rewarding to see when the students "get it" and experience positive growth in their lives.

### What part of the job do you enjoy the most?

The most enjoyable part of my job is working in an environment where community is highly valued. This is my first year at Warrenton Grade School, and I've been blown away at how the school, parents, students and col-



### Teachers Talk About Teaching

leagues have welcomed me in and have made it feel like home. My favorite part of the day is having meaningful one-on-one connections with my students in class or while walking the halls of the school. Just a simple high five and smile go a long way in showing that each child matters and is cared for.

### What is the most challenging part of your job?

I always say that teaching is the easy part of my job. What can be tough is maintaining the

motivation, energy and excitement through the long stretches between breaks. Especially in PE, movement should be fun and exciting for the students, so that they will hopefully make physical activity a daily part of their life outside of school and sustain a healthy lifestyle into adulthood. If a child finds reward in being active, they are more likely to continue being active. That's the challenge of my job: finding creative ways to make physical activity not only engaging, but rewarding as well.

— Edward Stratton



Sarah Kangas

