

POINT of view

THE DAILY ASTORIAN // QUESTION OF THE WEEK

'How do you feel about the old Astoria Ferry being back home in time for the Regatta?'



"I think it's wonderful. I think it's going to be really cool. I work on the trolley, and we talk it up quite a bit."

Rob Johnstone, Astoria



"I think it's wonderful, and I'm delighted. The minister who married us took the ferry across to visit his then-teenaged girlfriend, now wife. He lives in Portland now, and I told him to come see it. I'm so glad people have come together to do this."

Jan Mitchell, Astoria



"Awesome. I've been following this 'getting it here' since Jake Jacob first started talking about it."

Brian Burke, Astoria

Court leans toward allowing cormorant cull to continue

Judge finds birds are not endangered or threatened

Columbia Basin Bulletin

PORTLAND — Saying that double-crested cormorants are not an endangered or threatened species, but that many of the salmon and steelhead they feast on in the Lower Columbia River estuary are, U.S. District Court Judge Michael H. Simon's tentative ruling would allow the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' to continue culling cormorants in the estuary.

The tentative ruling was released to attorneys for the plaintiffs and defendants, just prior to final oral arguments last week in a lawsuit that began in April 2015.

If the tentative decision

stands, the Corps will be allowed to continue culling the birds, oiling their eggs and destroying their nests this year and for the next two years at East Sand Island in the Columbia River near Chinook and Ilwaco, Washington.

Although the court found that the Corps and the Fish and Wildlife Service violated the National Environmental Policy Act "by failing properly to consider reasonable alternatives in developing the management plan for double-crested cormorants," it left the Corps' cormorant management plan in place.

The plaintiffs argued that the Corps should have considered other alternatives, such as hydrosystem changes, before acting on its cormorant management plan, and the court ruled in favor of this particular complaint while denying other issues brought by the plaintiffs. Simon left the management



EO Media Group/File Photo
A double-crested cormorant nests on top of the man-made tunnel used by researchers to traverse the colony on East Sand Island.

plan in place "because it provides some benefit to salmonids that are listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act, whereas double-crested cormorants are not listed as either endangered or threatened."

Conservationists want cull to end

Five conservation and animal welfare groups had filed

the lawsuit in late April 2015 in the U.S. District Court of Oregon, filing an injunction to stop the Corps from culling and harassing double-crested cormorants on East Sand Island. Simon denied that request.

Joining Audubon as plaintiffs in the suit are the Center for Biological Diversity, Wildlife Center of the North Coast, Animal Defense Fund and Friends of Animals. They are represented by Dan Rohlff of Earthrise Law Center.

The Corps, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services, are defendants, represented, among others, by Bradley Oliphant and Stephen Finn, both with the U.S. Department of Justice.

Lots to consider

After listening through a three-hour oral argument period Aug. 3, Simon said

this is just a tentative opinion, that there "obviously is a lot of scientific and legal complexity in these issues.

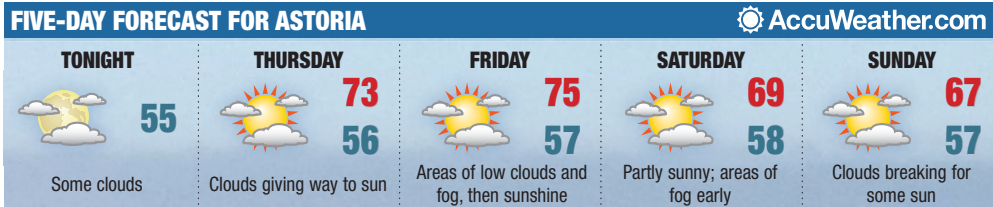
"The bad news is that I get to learn about all the mistakes I made and revisit the decision, and the good news is I get to learn about all the mistakes I made and revisit the decision," he said with a smile. His best estimate for a final decision is 60 days.

In objecting to facts in the decision, Rohlff listed seven issues, including the National Environmental Policy Act issue. However, much of his argument had to do with what he said is a failure by the Corps and the Fish and Wildlife Service to properly analyze the benefits to salmon productivity by killing cormorants, and the fear that culling would bring the West Coast population of cormorants to below a sustainable level.

Citing a study by Fish and Wildlife Service biologist Dr. Steven Haeseker on compensatory mortality, Rohlff said that killing cormorants will provide minimal benefits to actual salmon productivity. Further, Rohlff said that the Corps and the Fish and Service knew of the Haeseker study and ignored or suppressed the information.

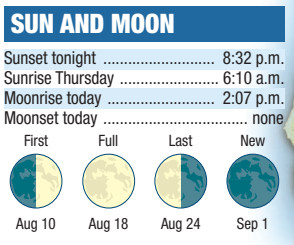
Finn, attorney for the defendants, said the Haeseker study should not be characterized as a product of the Fish and Wildlife Service and that it had yet to go through the peer-review process when the agency completed its depredation permit.

"The agency did take his work and submit it for review," Finn said. "Science processes go on and legal processes can be on a different schedule."



ALMANAC
Astoria through Tuesday.

Temperatures	High/Low 67°/59°
Normal high/low	69°/54°
Record high	86° in 2001
Record low	44° in 1975
Precipitation	Tuesday 0.07"
Month to date	0.40"
Normal month to date	0.23"
Year to date	40.74"
Normal year to date	37.42"



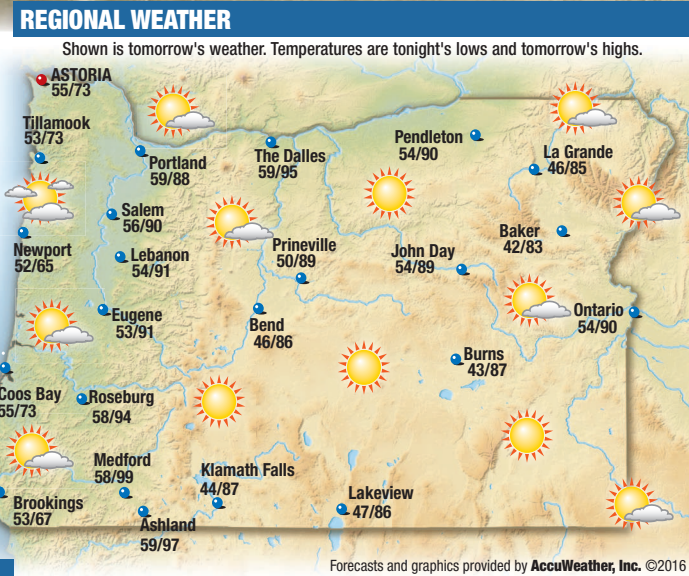
UNDER THE SKY
Tonight's Sky: First Quarter Moon (11:21 a.m.)

TOMORROW'S TIDES
Astoria / Port Docks

Time	High	Time	Low
8:40 a.m.	5.5 ft.	2:24 a.m.	1.4 ft.
8:14 p.m.	7.3 ft.	1:58 p.m.	2.6 ft.

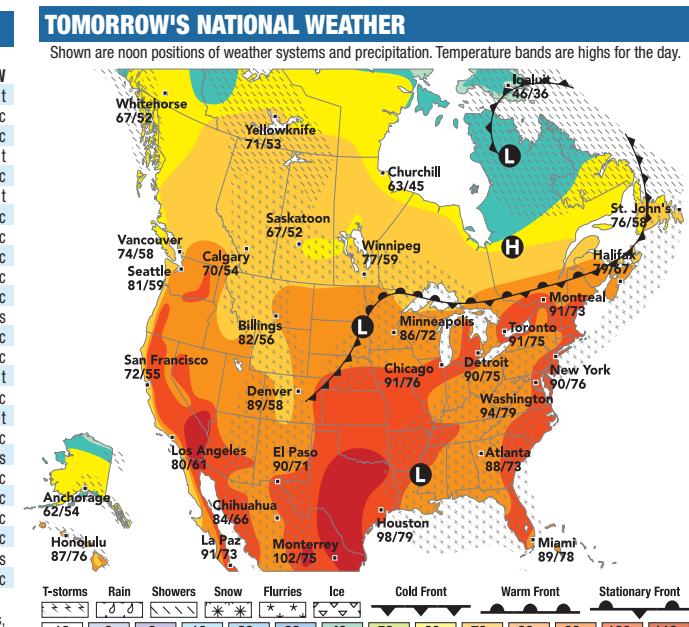
NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Thu.	W
Atlanta	83 72 c	88 73 t	
Boston	83 73 t	95 75 pc	
Chicago	90 73 pc	91 76 pc	
Denver	93 61 pc	89 58 t	
Des Moines	90 76 pc	90 75 pc	
Detroit	92 73 pc	90 75 t	
El Paso	89 71 t	90 71 pc	
Fairbanks	68 50 c	69 50 c	
Honolulu	88 77 pc	87 76 pc	
Indianapolis	88 74 t	89 75 pc	
Kansas City	91 76 pc	92 75 pc	
Las Vegas	97 78 pc	99 79 s	
Los Angeles	81 62 pc	80 61 pc	
Memphis	94 78 t	92 77 pc	
Miami	90 78 t	89 78 t	
Nashville	90 75 c	88 75 pc	
New Orleans	90 79 t	85 77 t	
New York	85 76 t	90 76 pc	
Oklahoma City	95 75 s	99 76 s	
Philadelphia	90 76 c	92 78 pc	
St. Louis	93 77 pc	95 78 pc	
Salt Lake City	88 66 pc	87 64 pc	
San Francisco	70 54 pc	72 55 pc	
Seattle	76 58 pc	81 59 s	
Washington, DC	93 78 pc	94 79 pc	



REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Thu.	W	City	Today	Thu.	W
Baker City	78 42 s	83 42 s		Olympia	77 50 pc	84 52 s	
Bend	79 46 s	86 50 s		Pendleton	83 54 s	90 57 s	
Brookings	72 53 pc	69 54 pc		Portland	80 59 pc	88 63 s	
Eugene	83 53 s	91 55 s		Roseburg	86 58 s	94 61 s	
Ilwaco	65 55 pc	68 56 pc		Salem	82 56 pc	90 59 s	
Klamath Falls	81 44 s	87 48 s		Seaside	66 54 pc	70 54 pc	
Medford	91 58 s	99 63 s		Spokane	77 56 pc	85 60 s	
Newberg	80 55 pc	88 57 s		Springfield	83 54 s	91 55 s	
Newport	65 52 pc	65 52 pc		Vancouver	79 58 pc	87 61 s	
North Bend	69 54 pc	68 53 pc		Yakima	86 56 s	92 58 s	



OBITUARIES

Danny Griffith

Astoria

July 12, 1951 — July 12, 2016



Danny Griffith passed away at home in Astoria, July 12, 2016, at the age of 65.

Danny was born in Antwerp, Belgium, July 12, 1951, to Jack and Edith Brauberd. His father was from Czechoslovakia, and his mother from Hungary. His parents were separated during World War II, but reunited after the war in Prague.

The family moved to New York in 1953. Danny graduated from high school in the Bronx. He then joined the Navy, and was honorably discharged in 1970.

He later worked as a roustabout in the oil industry, and traveled to many places. One of Danny's favorite places was Singapore, where he worked offshore.

Danny never married or had children, but came close to wedding his true love, Sarah, who lived in Singapore.

After a workplace accident in the early 1980s, he moved back to New York and worked as a diamond setter. He visited Astoria several times, and made a final move in 2001.

He loved traveling, horses, surfing, pro football, James Bond, "MASH," seafood and flying airplanes with John Seaman — along with watching the stock market oil prices.

His work injury left him with disabilities that kept him from doing a lot of the things he loved.

He is survived by his brothers William and Allan, who reside in New York.

You will be missed, "little buddy"! Something is truly rotten in Denmark!

A small get-together will be held at the Silver Salmon in September. Details will be announced at a later date.



Danny Griffith

Ronald R. Hubbard

Astoria

Dec. 20, 1927 — Aug. 8, 2016

Ronald R. Hubbard passed away peacefully in his home at Clatsop Retirement Village on Aug. 8, 2016. He was born in Astoria on Dec. 20, 1927.

Ron enlisted in the Navy at age 17, serving on the USS Bayfield touring China, Hawaii and Japan. When he returned home, he married his high school sweetheart, Janet Geritz. He then attended school for his career in marine construction, then worked in Alaska, Washington state, Oregon and California. He took an early retirement to enjoy life and travel with his wife and many friends. He enjoyed the outdoors, and was an avid fisherman and hunter.

He is survived by his daughter Ronda Severini (Rocky) of San Diego; son

made to Lower Columbia Hospice.



Ronald Hubbard

LOTTERIES

OREGON
Tuesday's Pick 4:
1 p.m.: 5-1-3-1
4 p.m.: 9-2-8-4
7 p.m.: 3-9-9-5
10 p.m.: 2-0-4-2

WASHINGTON
Tuesday's Daily Game:
8-9-2
Tuesday's Keno: 01-08-11-12-17-19-26-33-34-36-47-54-57-58-62-63-65-73-77-80
Tuesday's Match 4: 02-04-10-15
Tuesday's Mega Millions:
12-19-20-44-66, Mega Ball: 1
Estimated jackpot: \$45 million

MEMORIAL

Saturday, Aug. 13
PERKINS, Donald Jon — Celebration of life at 1 p.m., Wickiup Grange, 92683 Svensen Market Road in Svensen. Come join his family,

ily, have lunch and share memories of Don.
OLSON, Winifred "Wini" — Celebration of life at 2 p.m., Astoria Recreation Center (old Yacht Club), 1555 W. Marine Drive.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY
Clatsop County Board of Commissioners, 6 p.m., Judge Guy Boyington Building, 857 Commercial St., Astoria.
Astoria School Board, 6:15 p.m., work session, 7:30 p.m., regular meeting, Capt. Robert Gray School third-floor boardroom, 785 Alameda Ave.

Wickiup Water District Board, 6:30 p.m., 92648 Svensen Market Road, Svensen.
THURSDAY
Seaside Convention Center Commission, 5 p.m., 1225 Avenue A.
Gearhart Planning Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall, 698 Pacific Way.

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Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at www.dailyastorian.com/forms/obits, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Daily Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria. For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

The Daily Astorian

Established July 1, 1873 (USPS 035-000)

Published daily, except Saturday and Sunday, by EO Media Group, 949 Exchange St., PO Box 210, Astoria, OR 97103 Telephone 503-325-3211, 800-781-3211 or Fax 503-325-6573. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Daily Astorian, PO Box 210, Astoria, OR 97103-0210

www.dailyastorian.com

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26 weeks in advance.....\$70.82	26 weeks in advance.....\$102.63
52 weeks in advance.....\$135.05	52 weeks in advance.....\$199.90

Circulation phone number: 503-325-3211
Periodicals postage paid at Astoria, OR

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