

Oregon wolf count, plan update delayed

By ERIC MORTENSON
Capital Bureau



Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Two adult wolves from the Walla Walla Pack were caught on remote trail camera last January in Northern Umatilla County. Extreme weather in northeast Oregon interrupted airplane, helicopter and ground surveys of wolfpacks. As a result, the state's wolf plan update will be delayed.

"Wolves typically do quite well during the winter," she said by email. "Winters that are hard on deer and elk may actually be easier on wolves. There is winter (prey) loss to scavenge and it is harder for ungulates (deer and elk) to escape in the deep snow."

Oregon had a minimum of 110 wolves at the end of 2015, according to figures released by Fish and Wildlife in February 2016. At least seven wolves died in 2016. Four members of Wallowa County's Innaha pack, including venerable alpha male OR-4, were shot by the depart-

ment in March 2016 after repeatedly attacking, killing and eating livestock. Wildlife biologists speculated at the time that the group began attacking livestock due to OR-4's advanced age and the fact that his longtime mate limped from an injured leg. They had two yearlings with them, and the four appeared to have separated from or been forced out of the main Innaha pack.

In addition, a female wolf designated OR-28 was found dead in October 2016 in south-central Oregon. Officials have not said how the wolf died, and Oregon State

Police are investigating. A \$20,000 reward for information is available.

State police also are investigating a wolf found dead in Northeast Oregon in March 2016.

In May 2016, a sheep herder shot a wolf from the Walla Walla pack that was attacking sheep. State police judged the shooting was lawful under the "caught in act" provision that allows producers to kill wolves that are wounding, biting, killing or chasing livestock, according to Fish and Wildlife.

Business owners invited to gathering for Astoria Pride

'Porter & Pasta' has info and entertainment

The Daily Astorian



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian
Astoria Pride coordinator Marco Davis, center, walks with others during the Astoria Pride Parade last year.

The 2017 Astoria Pride Festival committee celebrating the LGBT community invites business owners to "Porter & Pasta," a social and informational gathering about the upcoming festival.

The event takes place 6 to 8:30 p.m. Friday at KALA performance space, 1017 Marine Dr.

The evening will include a complimentary pasta buffet; courtesy of Fulio's Pastaria; a no-host cocktail bar; a brief presentation by Marco Davis

about the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender three-day festival (taking place June 9 through 11); and information

about Pride sponsorship, the official 2017 Pride Guide and volunteer opportunities.

To add pizzazz to the pasta,

the night also features a Cole Porter mini-review/performance by local performers: vocalists Dinah Urell, Dida DeAngelis, Walt Trumbull, pianist Paul Brady and drag performer Ginger Vitus.

Attendees will meet members of the Pride committee in this informal gathering and discuss opportunities to help make the second annual Astoria Pride a successful event.

"We look forward to the second Astoria Pride Festival, community partnering, and building strength, goodwill and unity in the coastal communities," Astoria Pride Chairwoman Donna Galich said. "We hope folks will join us for a fun and informative evening."

Seamstress sets up shop in Uniontown

The Daily Astorian

Judy Hollingsworth is stepping into the void left by Eda Lindstrom's Custom Threads, which closes at the end of the month.

Hollingsworth, a third-generation seamstress, recently opened Sewing by Judy Holly of Astoria, an alteration service located inside Panache Hair & Nail Salon in Uniontown. She

does alterations, hemming and other services for clothing and other fabrics. She offers military discounts, sews patches for uniforms, provides emergency services and travels within the Astoria-Warrenton region.

"I've been in this field all my life," Hollingsworth said, adding she moved in 2012 to Astoria from Portland, where she owned a shop.

She spends 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at Panache — 261 W. Marine Drive — and takes most appointments at 503-347-6963. Her website is www.sewingbyjudyhollyofastoria.com

Edward Stratton/The Daily Astorian
Judy Hollingsworth recently opened Sewing by Judy Holly of Astoria.



Legislator spearheads naturalization ceremony

By PARIS ACHEN
Capital Bureau

SALEM — While many Oregon politicians hail former Republican Gov. Tom McCall as their role model, Republican Rep. Julie Parrish idolizes former Gov. Victor Atiyeh, the nation's first Arab-American governor.

"Oregon had rich history ... of welcoming immigrants," Parrish said.

The off-rogue Republican from West Linn wanted to remind legislators and Oregonians of that important history when she suggested hosting a naturalization ceremony on the floor of the House of Representatives.

The ceremony was held in conjunction with Oregon's birthday and Valentine's Day Tuesday on the House floor.

Parrish was an infant when her Lebanese father was naturalized as a U.S. citizen. In 2011, she became the first known Arab-American woman to be elected to the state Legislature.

"I had never been to a naturalization ceremony before," she said. (Parrish was three

months old when her father took the oath of allegiance to the United States.)

In January, she attended a naturalization ceremony at a U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services office in Portland, where Republican Dennis Richardson spoke as part of his first official event as newly-elected secretary of state. Parrish ran Richardson's campaign against Democrat Brad Avakian, who was seen as the likely victor.

"It's pretty impressive, pretty powerful," Parrish said of the naturalization ceremony. "At a time when the conversation around immigration is not very positive, this was an important opportunity to remind folks that we are a nation of immigrants."

"I thought legislators should see that and experience that."

Naturalization ceremonies had been hosted at the state Capitol in the past but were booked in the basement, far from the public eye. Parrish and one of Richardson's staff members approached House Speaker Tina Kotek to get permission to hold the ceremony

on the House floor. Kotek, D-Portland, agreed to host the ceremony to mark Oregon's 158th birthday, which coincides with Valentine's Day.

"That's the first time we have done one on the House floor," Kotek said. "We think it's a really important symbolic way of saying that everyone is welcome here in the state of Oregon."

Fifteen people were naturalized as U.S. citizens during the ceremony. They come from four countries: Mexico, China, the Philippines and Denmark, said Lindsey O'Brien, Kotek's spokeswoman.

Michael Hickman, Portland field office director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service, conducted the oath of allegiance during the ceremony.

"I feel like it was a neat thing to have it on the state's birthday," Parrish said.

"They were able to say not only am I an American citizen, I'm an Oregon citizen," Parrish said.



R.J. Marx/The Daily Astorian

Susan Calef and Dan Calef fear their home on Avenue A will be dwarfed by a proposed hotel.

Seaside hotel plan receives second appeal challenge

Building will 'dwarf' house, neighbors say

By R.J. MARX
The Daily Astorian



R.J. Marx/The Daily Astorian

Dan Calef speaks in opposition to the Pearl of Seaside hotel plan at a 2016 council meeting.

SEASIDE — Owners of a duplex on Avenue A in Seaside are once again appealing a decision by the Planning Commission granting a height variance for a new three-story hotel, the Pearl of Seaside.

"We seek to have the variances granted by the Planning Commission with respect to the design and specifically the height of the hotel be rescinded," wrote Susan and Dan Calef in their appeal.

They seek to delay construction until "the building can be made of a size consistent with the existing zoning ordinances."

After an initial plan was rejected on appeal by the City Council for failing to meet setback requirements, Simmons and architect David Vonada returned to the Planning Commission in January with revised plans eliminating the need for setback variances by reducing parking and eliminating four second-floor rooms.

The commission unanimously approved a revised plan by owner Antoine Simmons for the Pearl, on the site of the Inn at the Prom and a neighboring Beach Drive lot. "It is the goal of this development to combine both parcels and develop a hotel that fits the context of its location in an aesthetically pleasing manner," architect David Vonada said in January.

Because of an 8-foot grade difference between the east and west sides of the building, an additional variance was needed to allow the increase to 60 feet for the roof height at the west building wing, an addition of 15 feet over the 45 feet allowed by current zoning.

The building will have

sloped roofs and dormer windows, with an 80-foot tower, an architectural feature already allowed as an exception to the building height under city ordinance.

Appeals to the first plan were brought by the Calefs and Avrel Nudelman, who owns a home at 341 Beach Drive.

After the new proposal's approval in January, the Calefs submitted their second appeal. "The proposed structure on 341 South Prom will dwarf our house, invade our privacy by placing hotel balconies feet from our upstairs bedroom and generally diminish the value of our property," the Calefs wrote.

They said they are objecting to the decision on the basis that granting easements for the purpose of allowing a proposed project to be economically viable should not then in turn diminish the value and utility of existing adjacent properties. "The project is not simply replacing an existing motel with a newer facility, it is combining two separate sites to construct one much larger unit. ... The applicant has effectively created the condition he is trying to remedy."

For this reason, the Calefs write, Simmons has not met the requirements for the granting of the height easement. The appeal will be heard by the City Council at a March meeting.

Nudelman said Wednesday he does not plan an appeal.

WANTED
Alder and Maple Saw Logs & Standing Timber
Northwest Hardwoods • Longview, WA
Contact: John Anderson • 360-269-2500

Clatsop Post 12
Beef Stew and Biscuits
Friday
Feb. 17th
4 pm until gone
\$8.00
6PM
"Karaoke Dave"
ASTORIA
AMERICAN LEGION
Clatsop Post 12
1152 Exchange Street
325-5771

NEW
Full color, scenic montage postcards of Astoria now available at the Daily Astorian office!
3 for \$1
Tourists, visitors, family & friends will love sending these!
949 Exchange Street, Astoria • 503-325-3211