

Developer buys Stephanie's Cabin

Hotelier also purchased The Ship Inn

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Mark Hollander, the developer trying to bring a Marriott Hotel to Astoria, has purchased the former Stephanie's Cabin.

Hollander Properties LLC purchased the property at 12 W. Marine Drive for \$1 million from Goin Fishin' LLC, the parent company of Stephanie's Cabin, the restaurant run by Stephanie Dunagan since 2000. The deal was recorded with Clatsop County's Assessment and Taxation Department last week.

Stephanie's Cabin closed late last year without much explanation besides a handwritten note on the door from a manager announcing the

restaurant would be closed until further notice. Neither Dunagan nor Hollander have responded to requests for comment.

Hollander bought The Ship Inn last spring from Jill Stokeld for \$545,000, signing a lease with her to operate the restaurant for at least one more year. He now owns most of the block between First and Second streets along the Astoria Riverwalk, except for Josephson's Smokehouse and an adjacent 76 gas station owned by Don Small of Auburn, Washington.

Mike Josephson said he has not been contacted by Hollander about acquiring Josephson's Smokehouse. Kizzie Adams, a manager of the 76 gas station, told Clatsop Current News there is no plan to sell or demolish the location.

On the riverfront side of Hollander's properties is the boiler from the former White Star Cannery, which was des-

ignated historic in 2015 by city's Historic Landmarks Commission. The city has limited development around the boiler to the height of the riverbank. Any development must consider the historic nature of the boiler and nearby piling field and ballast rock, and must be approved by the Historic Landmarks Commission.

The city has yet to finish the Urban Core section of the Riverfront Vision Plan, which would govern development along the Astoria waterfront between Second and 16th streets.

Hollander leased a 1.5-acre strip of land between the Red Building and the Maritime Memorial from the Port of Astoria to study the feasibility of building a Marriott Hotel, after a failed bid to take over operation of the Astoria Riverwalk Inn. Port Executive Director Jim Knight said Hollander is still trying to develop the leased land.

Control over dam still divides city, water district

Water district board member wants more talks

By ERICK BENGEL
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The Skipanon Water Control District, which manages the Eighth Street Dam in Warrenton, wants to get out of the city's jurisdiction and discuss the future of the dam, an aging structure in the Skipanon River, without lawyers present.

"We want you to have control of the Skipanon River inside of your city limits," Bruce Francis, vice chairman of the water district board, told the City Commission on Tuesday.

The water district, which covers some of Warrenton but mostly Clatsop Plains, runs from Cullaby Lake to the mouth of the Columbia River. Francis said the boundary of the water district should be changed to the southern boundary of Warrenton, allowing the city to turn the Skipanon into a navigable stream that can accommodate fish passage.

"Why should we be in your backyard?" Francis said. "You guys should have control. Let's discuss that. I want to see the people who are paying taxes to us inside your jurisdiction

stop. We don't need your tax money."

The Eighth Street Dam, built in 1963, remains the subject of an ongoing property dispute between the city and the water district, a contentious saga involving questions of ownership and liability that has lasted more than a year.

The water district views the dam as an obsolete danger that should be removed, claiming the move would not increase flood risk. But the city, which wants to restore the dam for flood protection, has turned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for guidance, and argues that when the water district removed tide gates and ceased operating the structure as a dam, the district forfeited a city easement to operate it. The city is seeking to take control of the dam.

Francis urged the city to talk to the district board without expensive attorneys present.

"We just want to talk to you," Francis said, adding, "We're sitting here, looking at each other, and we're not making any progress. I would like to see some progress on this."

The mayor, whose family has property in the area, accused the water district of purposely ignoring a 2002 National Resources Conservation Service report that predicted changes to

the dam — which Kujala says is not really a dam but a flood-control structure, part of the city's levee system — would result in erosion and property damage upstream.

In 2002, the water district mechanized the tide gates, then, years later, removed them. Francis insisted that these modifications cannot account for the erosion that has taken place.

A recent exchange between Kujala and the water district board — published in the Columbia Press and The Daily Astorian — offered markedly different views of the structure's history — a disagreement that simmered at Tuesday's meeting.

But Francis said the water district agreed with the final line in the statement written by Kujala with commission input, that "liabilities and responsibilities for the Eighth Street Dam have yet to be determined and hopefully that can be done swiftly."

"You're exactly right," Francis said. "Let's get this taken care of in a timely manner, because the longer we sit around here, the more money the attorney is grinding out of taxpayers and out of our pockets."

State Senate honors Sgt. Goodding

Memorial ceremony to be held in May

By R.J. MARX
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — The state Senate has unanimously approved a resolution recognizing and honoring fallen Seaside Police Sgt. Jason Goodding for his service to the state.

The resolution is sponsored by state Sen. Betsy Johnson.

The resolution will go to the state House of Representatives before signing by the governor, Seaside Police Chief Dave Ham said.

A law enforcement memorial road sign will be placed in Goodding's honor and unveiled in May at the Oregon Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Memorial ceremony at the Oregon Public Safety Academy.

Goodding, who was shot and killed in the line of duty in February 2016 while attempting to make a felony warrant arrest



Submitted Photo

State Sen. Betsy Johnson with Dean and Patty Goodding — the father and stepmother of fallen Seaside Police Sgt. Jason Goodding — after the Senate passed a resolution honoring Goodding and his sacrifice.

on Broadway in Seaside, was recognized as "a mentor and leader who worked to improve the lives of homeless people in Seaside and who was loved and respected by his co-workers and the community he served."

Goodding joined the Sea-

side Police Department in 2003. He was promoted to sergeant in 2007. After his death in the line of duty, he was awarded the Law Enforcement Medal of Ultimate Sacrifice, presented to his wife and daughters at the his memorial service in Seaside by Gov. Kate Brown.

The Senate resolution recalls Goodding's "immense smile and his generous nature" and his "passion, dedication and diligence" to his role with police.

"It was an incredibly moving day," Johnson said of the Senate's reading.

Johnson, D-Scappoose, said she shared the message she delivered at last year's memorial for Goodding. "It was a message I wanted the Legislature to hear and wanted the message in the legislative record," she said. "Jason's death is like a fresh wound. You could hear a pin drop in the chambers. It was a well-deserved tribute. But God, it must have been difficult for the parents."

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