



Photos by Hannah Sievert/The Daily Astorian

Cole Biamont holds a piglet at the fair.

Fair: 'I try to give them the best life I can'

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Isabella Clement, an Astoria High School sophomore, has been in 4-H since the fourth grade, and helps raise pigs and lambs on her leader's farm.

While Clement loves the program, she and many other competitors find it difficult to say goodbye to their animals after the week at the fair. Clement's pig, born in February, will be sent to market after the fair is over for meat production.

"It's hard, but I try to think that's what they're meant to do," Clement said. "They wouldn't do well as pets. It's sad but if I didn't have them, they'd be with someone else. I try to give them the best life I can."

Some animals are brought to the barn just to show off and not to compete.

Siblings Cole and Cori Biamont are showing several animals, but brought their pig, "Martha," just to display her nine piglets, born 2 1/2 weeks ago. Martha was the grand champion for the breeding swine category last year.

"I like pigs because they're very smart," Cole Biamont said. "They recognize me and my sister and they come to their names. They're pretty much giant dogs."

But some of the Biamont's pigs will be sent to market after this week, too. They both consider the pigs they've helped raise to be like pets, since they have worked with them since their birth. But as the siblings have now worked with pigs for years, they realize it's all part of the job.

"It's especially hard when they go to market," Cole Biamont said. "It's hard to lose them. But it's also part of it. We've gotten use to it."



A goat at the county fair.



Piglets get an afternoon snack at the fair.

Measure: 'I will be profiled by my race'

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"I don't know what this would look like," Halverson said. "I believe it would add some complexity to that for sure."

Racial profiling

Whether or not police change their methods, Gonzalez said a repeal would create more fear of racial profiling.

"I think that's the bigger scare for the community as a whole here," Gonzalez said, given that Astoria is overwhelmingly white. "As someone who is brown, I will be profiled by my race where other people wouldn't. I think that's true for a lot of rural communities. They don't know what it's like to be racially profiled, so they won't notice, but people of color will obviously."

Oregonians for Immigration Reform played a major role in gathering signatures for the bal-

lot measure.

In 2014, the group pushed Measure 88, which overturned a law passed by the state Legislature that would have allowed undocumented immigrants to obtain driver's cards.

"People are very upset about how denigrated citizenship has become in this country," said Jim Ludwick, the group's communications director. "Quite frankly, nobody gave us a chance. Even I didn't think we had a chance."

Due to the success of Measure 88, and with President Donald Trump pressing immigration reform as a national priority, the group is optimistic about November.

"The fervor with which people signed the initiative was amazing," Ludwick said. "I believe we'll win overwhelmingly."

Gonzalez agreed that the measure may have legs. "I am pretty concerned," she said.



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

People wave signs in Astoria against a measure on the November ballot that would overturn the state's sanctuary law.

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RV park: 'It got to be a very elaborate process for a small parcel of land'

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The RV park also encountered vocal local pushback. Arch Cape residents and environmental groups raised concerns in September at a public hearing about adding traffic to an already populated stretch of Highway 101, threats to water quality with sewer infrastructure butting up against nearby streams and the property's proximity to threatened marbled murrelet habitat.

Although county planners were concerned with the criticism, Waggoner said, community concerns did not sway Smejkal's decision to sell.

"There were a lot of things not desirable with this land from a development standpoint," Waggoner said. "It got to be a very elaborate process for a small parcel of land."

Now that the property is off the table for development, the North Coast Land

Conservancy has shown interest in bringing what was once state parkland back into conservation.

Katie Voelke, the land conservancy's executive director, said in an email that the property has conservation value, including the connection to the state park and beach and a forest with legacy spruce and cedar that provides nesting habitat for the marbled murrelet.

While Waggoner said he has had conversations with the land conservancy, no offer has been made and a price has yet to be set.

The price will be determined by an Oregon Department of Transportation forester who will survey the land for timber value. Waggoner said that if Smejkal can't find a buyer, they will start the process to rezone the land to allow harvesting the timber.

"If an environmental group wants it, we see that as the best use," Waggoner said.

Buoy 10: Bag limits reduced to keep season open longer

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The lower forecasts have led to a reduced bag limit to keep the season open longer. Only one adult Chinook, coho or steelhead may be caught per day through Aug. 24, after which all retention of Chinook in the Buoy 10 area closes. The lower bag limit was part of a balance to keep the season open longer based on expected catches, North said.

Starting Aug. 25, the catch limit expands to two hatchery coho or steelhead per day. Only one hatchery steelhead per day may be caught through Dec. 31 for all main stem recreational Columbia fisheries.

"All the fisheries up and down the river had to be reduced, so we tried to make it proportional," North said.

Retention of one Chinook per day will be allowed from Tongue Point upstream to Warrior Rock near St. Helens through Sept. 2. Starting Sept. 3, up to two hatchery coho or steelhead per day can be caught, including one hatchery steelhead.

One Chinook may be caught daily from Warrior Rock upstream to Bonneville Dam through Sept. 14. Beginning Sept. 15, the daily limit is up to two hatchery coho or steelhead, including one hatchery steelhead.

During all fall Columbia fisheries this year upstream to the Oregon-Washington state border near McNary Dam, each legal angler aboard a vessel may continue to deploy gear until the daily adult salmon limit for all anglers aboard has been achieved.

A complete summary of regulations can be found at tinyurl.com/Columbiafishing

Fishermen leave the Hammond Marina during Buoy 10 in 2015.
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