

Easom Property Management evolves into new real estate firm

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Easom Property Management, one of the largest rental firms in the region, has transitioned to Community Property Management as owners Kent Easom and LJ Gunderson look to slow down and relocate to Idaho.

The new company, represented by Portland real estate agent Craig Gilbert, is a property management arm of regional real estate firm Windermere. Easom, a former agent with Windermere Community Realty, said he has known Gilbert for a decade and thought he shared the same philosophy of doing right by property owners and tenants.

"We're wanting to slow down," Easom said. "It's a good opportunity to merge."

Easom Property Management started in 1996 managing about 20 units, but has

grown to 260 throughout Clatsop County.

"We have units all over the spectrum," Easom said.

Rents range from \$500 to \$2,200, he said, and less than 10 percent are Section 8 low-income housing units. The company's properties are almost entirely full, with a 1 to 2 percent vacancy rate. One of the largest properties the company manages, the 30-unit Villa Del Mar senior apartments in Warrenton, was recently put up for sale at more than \$1.8 million.

There are no immediate changes planned in the properties or operations, Gilbert said. While moving out of the area, Easom and Gunderson will still play a role managing the new company's operations in person and remotely.

"Remote communications have become so easy," Gilbert said. "We have another managing broker that lives in Palm Springs."

Easom and Gunderson



John Goodenberger

The Franklin Apartments are part of the 260 units under the management of Community Property Management, formerly Easom Property Management.

are active in the community. Gunderson is the president of the city's Historic Landmarks

Commission and Easom serves on the Astoria Planning Commission.

Trump's trade war with China tough on many Washington state farmers

By NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS
Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. — The trade war with China is making life difficult for many farmers across Washington.

The state's 1,900 wheat growers, who export the vast majority of their crop, are particularly hurt. But so are cherry growers who just harvested their highly perishable crop.

Washington stands to lose \$480 million in agricultural exports to China because of retaliatory tariffs, according to the state Department of Agriculture.

Mike Carstensen, a wheat grower whose farm is near Grand Coulee Dam, said that last year China was the No. 4 customer for his wheat.

"To date they have bought zero," Carstensen said of this year's crop.

Gary Bailey, a wheat farmer near the Washington-Idaho state border, said he hasn't sold any wheat to China since March.

"I hope it doesn't last too long," Bailey said of the trade war. "We've developed relationships with these countries and as we go along, they will be replacing our wheat with someone else's. We want to

keep those relationships strong and healthy."

President Donald Trump has raised duties on billions of dollars' worth of Chinese imports, and China retaliated with similar penalties. Chinese leaders have tried to cushion the blow to their own economy by targeting U.S. goods its importers can get from other countries.

Mike Miller, a wheat farmer outside of Ritzville, about 60 miles west of Spokane, thinks the trade war has had minimal impacts on global wheat prices so far.

"Other conditions in the world wheat market have

caused a bump upward in prices that are not related to our own international trade policies," Miller said.

Poor wheat crops in Australia and Europe have prices "on a little upward swing," he said.

More than 90 percent of the \$600 million wheat crop in Washington is exported to other countries each year.

Miller said farmers are eternal optimists who understand the federal government is seeking better trade conditions with China.

"I just wish agriculture wasn't being singled out in this retaliatory climate," Miller said.

Regulators want more tax money to track medical pot

Associated Press

SALEM — The Oregon Liquor Control Commission will ask state lawmakers during the 2019 session for \$7 million in recreational pot taxes per biennium to help track medical marijuana.

The Statesman Journal reported Thursday that the money would provide ongoing funding for the tracking program.

Legislators previously appropriated money to start the tracking program and spokesman Mark Pettinger says 23 positions have been authorized, including 16 inspectors.

Commission Executive Director Steve Marks said in a statement that their regulatory role over recreational and now medical marijuana, as well as additional oversight responsibilities for hemp, has greatly expanded the agency's work.

Taxes collected on recreational marijuana sales are divided among recipients including schools and the Oregon State Police.

State figures show Oregon has brought in more than \$180 million in state marijuana taxes since collections began in 2016.

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September 1st & 2nd, 2018

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11:30AM - 3:00PM

BBQ • Free Tours • Disc Golf w/Prizes • Corn Hole
Badminton • Living History • No Day Use Fee
JR Ranger Programs (11:30am and 1:30pm)

11:30AM - 2:30PM

Enjoy a BBQ Lunch
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- Aldrich Point Dairy
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- P & L Johnson Mechanical
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<p>4-H GRAND CHAMPION MARKET</p> <p>GOAT</p> <p>Seller: Jameson Linder Buyer: Hampton Lumber Warrenton</p>	<p>4-H GRAND CHAMPION MARKET</p> <p>LAMB</p> <p>Seller: Marlee Walter Buyer: Coastal Farm & Ranch</p>	<p>4-H GRAND CHAMPION MARKET</p> <p>CHICKEN ROASTER</p> <p>Seller: Georgia White Buyer: Brim's Farm & Garden</p>	<p>A Special Thank you to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lisa Lamping Photography • Drs. Hunter & Ramsey DVM • Clatsop Community Bank <p>Thank you to these businesses that paid the commission fees for the market auction:</p> <p>BIG RIVER CONSTRUCTION Inc.</p> <p>Bayview Transit Mix</p> <p>Pape Machinery</p> <p>rci</p> <p>RICKENBACH CONSTRUCTION INCORPORATED</p>