

# Dog: Classification as a level five dangerous animal upheld

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Eric Halverson, the interim police chief at the time, designated Layla a level five dangerous animal, the highest level, which applies to animals at large that kill other animals.

At a hearing in Circuit Court on Wednesday, City Attorney Blair Henningsgaard called Jack's owner and others who described the aftermath of the attack. John Taylor, who lives with Theresa Brown, Jack's owner, said he saw the dog pouncing on the cat. He then went to help

corral the dog.

When Taylor went to go check on Jack, the cat was making some noise but clearly dying. "There was no trying to save him," he said.

Brown said Jack often slept outside in the sunshine. When she heard yelling outside, she came out to see Layla chasing the neighbor's cat and her cat covered in blood. She said she sat there for a while afterward, holding Jack's body.

Geordie Duckler, an attorney in Tigard who specializes in animal-related legal issues, represented

Mayer. He said that since none of the witnesses actually saw Layla kill the cat, the dog should not be classified as a level five dangerous animal.

"They didn't see dog kill the cat," he said. "They inferred that, of course, dog killed cat, but they didn't see that behavior, and if we're at that level in which we're applying city code conscientiously and properly, then we don't have a level five classification, or we shouldn't, if we're applying it correctly."

Instead, Duckler said the descriptions of Layla's behavior fit a level

one or level four designation. Level one behavior is defined in the city code as an animal at large that threatens or endangers the safety of another animal. Level four behavior is established if an animal at large aggressively bites or causes physical injury to an animal or person.

Judge Peterson said he understood Duckler's argument to a point, but he did not believe the city code prohibits the court from drawing reasonable, well-founded inferences about the situation.

Since Jack had no prior health

problems and died after being attacked by Layla, Peterson said he did not need witnesses to say they saw Layla kill Jack to uphold the dog's classification as a level five dangerous animal.

In his statement to The Astorian, Mayer said the dangerous animals section of the city code is inhumane, especially in its call to euthanize animals for manageable behavior.

Mayer said he and his girlfriend feel terrible about the loss of Jack, but they do not think Layla should die.

## Apothecary: 'It's exciting because I grew up here'

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"I pull it out, and it's literally a black cauldron," she said, a centuries-old item from Hicks' collection. "I was like, all right. There's enough signs from the universe."

She made quick work of preparing the space and reopened in early July.

In the front room, the floor has been cleared to make room for local artisan wares. Witches Brew sells coffees and chocolates from behind one of the counters. The antique cauldron has been filled with scented bath salts.

Norgaard now has a downstairs neighbor, Rain Town Vintage, which has been in the building since last year. Shoppers looking for vintage clothes walk through Kit's Apothecary to get there.

"It's exciting, we love the space. We love the energy of people who come in," she said. "Having Rain Town in the basement — the fashion that comes into this building that we get to look at — phenomenal."



Abbey McDonald/The Astorian

An antique cauldron Kristen Norgaard found in the back of a cabinet is now on display in the storefront, used to hold bath salts.

Rain Town's owner, Nathan Crowchild, was upstairs visiting with Norgaard, drinking a cup of Witches Brew.

"It's been really great. And it's great having the new neighbors upstairs. It really meshes well with both our businesses," he said. "Now I get coffee upstairs, and they buy clothes downstairs."

"We never have to leave the building," Norgaard added, laughing.

Renovations are still ongoing. She plans to convert one of the back rooms into a cafe with a seating area, envisioning glowy backlighting to complement stained glass and reclaimed wood.

Norgaard enjoys the reac-

tions customers have had to her new location.

"It's exciting because I grew up here," she said. "And so to be able to take a building and watch the transformation, and then watch people get so excited about it when they come in. Because they're like, 'This was Abeco? Where, what?'"

## Gray: Climate change a major moral issue

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and on various groups' claims to victimhood. "It basically means you're a party of tribes, rather than having one unifying vision," he said.

Running as a Republican was not an option, as the party has largely turned away from democracy and conservatism, Gray said, pointing to efforts to subvert the 2020 presidential election and baselessly cast doubt on the results.

"Today, we are at a place where the two parties are only competing to be the lesser of two evils ... 'You think I'm bad? Look at the other guy,'" he said. "That's basically what the two parties offer us now. There's no vision."

Gray has likened the historical moment to the years preceding the Civil War as recounted in a Pulitzer Prize-winning book by David M. Potter called "The Impending Crisis, 1848-1861."

The U.S. in the mid-19th century was divided over an overwhelming moral issue — slavery — and faced a related economic one: the need to transform the country from a resource-based economy that sold raw materials abroad to an industrial economy, a shift brought about by the Homestead Act and transcontinental railroads.

When Congress passed the Kansas-Nebraska Act, opening the American West to slavery, anti-slavery congressmen — both Democrats and Whigs — defected from their respective parties. Politicians made common cause with former rivals and founded a new party they eventually called the Republican Party. Within a decade, Republicans controlled both houses of Congress and had elected the party's first president, Abraham Lincoln.

Gray sees a compelling moral issue — keeping the planet inhabitable — and the need for another transformation, this time to a low-carbon economy.

Third parties often fizzle

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Frederick "Rick" T. Gray Jr. | A Cannon Beach resident running for state House District 32 as a nonaffiliated candidate

out or get subsumed by bigger parties. The Republican Party's precedent shows that experienced political leaders — more so than well-intentioned activists — can create something durable, he said.

Somebody in Gray's position, running for office without establishment backing, may have to run at least twice — the first time just to get known, he said. He has picked up a prominent endorsement from Deborah Boone, a Democrat who represented the House district for 14 years before choosing not to run for reelection in 2018.

"You might win, but if you do win, you're a freshman who sneaked in somehow and they're going to come after you," he said. "If you don't win, don't waste all that work. Build on it and run again."

When Gray began his campaign earlier this year, his plan was: Run in 2022, get elected in 2024.

"It's not the job of this campaign to actually build the party. It's to find the people to build the party after this campaign," he said. "Whether I'm in office or whether I'm not, that party-building process will go on."

Gray's father served as Virginia's attorney general, a state representative and a state senator. At times, he brought his son into the bill-drafting process. The younger Gray saw himself as an unofficial legislative aide.

The role as secretary of the

commonwealth — essentially Virginia's secretary of state — is largely ceremonial, responsible for keeping and countersigning the governor's official documents, from appointments and executive orders to pardons. In 1981, Gray publicly opposed President Ronald Reagan's handling of the air traffic controllers strike. Facing a furor from Republicans, Gray resigned, saying Gov. John Dalton, who supported the president, deserved someone who did not cause him embarrassment.

Raised in a Democratic household, Gray became a Republican in the late 1970s. When he saw certain components of Reagan's support — segregationist Democrats switching parties — he went independent.

"It's really hard to play the lesser-of-two-evils game when there are three sides. So I think we need to have a third option," he said. "And when we have a third option I think that will force the other two parties to either do something positive or die."

## Director: 'Raised on the coast of North Carolina'

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Gibbs hails from North Carolina. At Hyde County, he served as emergency services director after working as a 911 database administrator, the county said.

"His tenure included response to multiple hurricanes, storms and wildfires, as well as an assignment to Puerto Rico as a planning section chief for the Hurricane Maria response in 2017," the county wrote.

Tiffany Brown, who manages and directs the Emergency Operations Center, reports to Gibbs.

The idea of turning emergency management into a director-led department has been contemplated for about a dozen years. Emergency management, a statutorily required agency, left the purview of the sheriff's office to the county manager's office in 2010.

"Having been born and raised on the coast of North Carolina, I very much feel at home," Gibbs said in a statement. "I look forward to learning, growing and becoming a member of the community and serving its members with integrity."

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