



Photo by Amber Marra

**GOLFERS WHO** enjoy hitting the links at Husum Hills Golf Course should get it while they can as plans to close the course as of May 1 are in motion. Owners Don and Heidi Struck say they've tried to sell Husum Hills as a golf course for two and a half years and are now in talks with Klickitat County about their plan to sell it as small-scale phased residential property.

## Husum Hills Golf Course to close May 1

By **AMBER MARRA**  
The Enterprise

After a half of a century, western Klickitat County's premier golf course is set to close this spring.

Husum Hills Golf Course located serenely off of Highway 141 was originally developed in 1964. Its nine holes on 47 acres nestled among the rolling hills and pines of western Klickitat County were purchased by Don and Heidi Struck in 1994.

Now just over 20 years later, the Strucks are calling it a day. "It's like losing a part of the family," Don Struck said.

The Strucks started looking into selling the golf course as a whole about two and a half years ago when they determined it wasn't financially viable to keep it open.

That said, keeping it a golf course following their ownership was important to the Strucks, but it ended up just not being in the cards.

"I had lots of people that had the same vision we did, but nobody with the money to go forward," Don said. "That's the reason we bought it and that's the reason we really wanted it to stay a golf course.

It's just a tough financial business right now."

Over the years, Don has noted that Husum Hills never "carried itself financially" and that he relied heavily on the help of his family to keep things running smoothly. With three of his daughters in college next year, he knew it was time to start looking at other options.

"We always felt it was so important to the community and we just did the best we could using family labor," he said.

Currently, the Strucks have three parcels for sale in the vicinity of Husum Hills that are between an acre and a half and two acres each. The Strucks are currently in talks with the Klickitat County Planning Department regarding options for a 10- or 15-year plan for small-scale, phased residential development of the 47 acres.

"It doesn't happen overnight. There's a lot of planning and research that has to happen," said Heidi Struck.

In the meantime, Husum Hills will remain open to the public through May 1 on the same honor system it always has. Players can still leave \$10

in the lock box near the pro shop and then hit the links.

After May 1, the course will officially close, but the Strucks both said members of the community can still use it after that if they want.

"We won't keep people from going out and playing if they want to play. It's just not going to be manicured like it always has been. Once we have to start irrigating it's overwhelming. It's more than three people can keep up with," Don said. "At that point it'll just naturally run its course. It really won't be playable anymore."

As for local golfers, the Strucks circulated a newsletter on behalf of the staff of Husum Hills in 2014 to spread the word of the course being up for sale, but that hasn't softened the blow for a community that will soon have to say goodbye to its golf course.

"Everybody is disappointed, but over 20 years you build up a lot of really nice relationships and I think for the most part the clientele has known for years that we were basically keeping it open for the community and they all saw the writing on the wall that it's not viable," Don said.

## Two airlifted after Mt. Hood climbing accident

ASSOCIATED PRESS

An Oregon National Guard helicopter has airlifted two climbers off Mount Hood after the two were injured in a fall, rescue officials said.

The two climbers, a male and a female, are being taken to Legacy Emanuel Medical Center for treatment, American Medical Response in Portland said.

The climbers were injured after they fell early Saturday near an area on the mountain known as the Hogsback, according to the Clackamas County sheriff's office. A call for help was received just before 11 a.m., Deputy Ben Frazier said.

The male climber might have a broken femur, while

the female climber has two broken ankles, Frazier said.

A third climber, another male who was also with them, was able to make it down the mountain with help.

The climbers were on the popular south-side climbing route. Frazier said he did not know what caused them to fall. Weather conditions near the mountain were good Saturday: clear skies and sun. Hogsback is a snow ridge at about 10,000 feet elevation.

Members of Portland Mountain Rescue, a volunteer search and rescue group, and American Medical Response reached the injured climbers earlier in the day and helped stabilize

them.

Rescuers and paramedics relocated the injured climbers to a nearby area that's easier to reach by helicopter, which plucked both climbers off the mountain with the rotors still turning, American Medical Response said.

Editor's Note: This story was originally published Feb. 1. The Associated Press has since reported that the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office has released the names of the two injured climbers: 43-year-old Michelle Carlson of Portland suffered two broken ankles and her husband — 39-year-old Brian Carlson — broke a leg.

## Mount St. Helens climbing permits are now on sale

Mount St. Helens 2015 climbing permits are now on sale.

Permits are required to travel above 4,800-foot elevation on the volcano year round. If you are climbing April 1 to October 31, climbing permits are \$22 per climber and can be purchased online through the Mount St. Helens Institute website, mshinstitute.org.

Please note, there are important changes to the permit process in 2015. At time of purchase, you must now print your permits, fill in climbers name on each permit, and bring them with you to the trailhead. Climber registers are located at both Climbers Bivouac and Marble Mountain Sno-Park trailheads;

climbers are required to sign the register at the trailhead when they begin their climb. Plastic permit holders are available at climber registers for permit in a visible manner while climbing Mount St. Helens.

National Forest Day Passes (parking permits) are no longer provided with climbing permits at time of purchase. Funds from pass sales will be used to maintain the toilets, parking and campsites at Climbers Bivouac. Climbers will need to display a National Forest Recreation Day Pass (\$5/day), Annual Northwest Forest Pass, or an Interagency Annual Pass on each car parked at Climbers Bivouac. Day passes are available for purchase at a self-service pay station at Climbers Bivouac, at Monument fa-

cilities, or online at [discovernw.org/store\\_rec-reati-on-passes\\_1PASS/](http://discovernw.org/store_rec-reati-on-passes_1PASS/).

Please note that the area of Mount St. Helens above treeline is a Traditional Cultural Property of Cowlitz and Yakama Tribal groups. For thousands of years, the mountain has been a central place in the culture and mythology of the Tribes, where resources were gathered and young people were sent to test themselves. It is a place charged with powerful energy. When you cross above the Loowit Trail into the region where the climbing permit is required, please conduct yourself in a manner that is respectful of both Tribal interests and this special place.

For more information contact the Mount St. Helens Institute at 360-449-7883.

## Goldendale woman's trial in toddler's death set

ASSOCIATED PRESS/THE DAILY ASTORIAN

ASTORIA, Ore. (AP) — The trial of a Washington state woman charged with drugging and killing her 2-year-old daughter at an Oregon coastal resort has been put off a year.

It has also been scheduled for the summer in the expectation of testimony from the surviving daughter, who at 13 is attending school for the first time.

The decision Thursday from Judge Cindee Matyas means Jessica Smith, 41, of Goldendale is scheduled to stand trial beginning June 28, 2016, the Daily Astorian (<http://bit.ly/1JuMcBx>) reported.

The trial, expected to last three weeks, had been scheduled to begin in July.

Smith has pleaded not guilty to an aggravated mur-

der charge that could result in the death penalty, as well as to a charge of attempted aggravated murder charge for the slaying that nearly killed the 13-year-old.

Smith and her husband were divorcing and involved in a custody dispute over the children.

Smith's lawyers told the judge they couldn't prepare for a July trial because they have other aggravated murder trials in Multnomah and Clackamas counties this year. They said they could handle an April 2016 start.

Greg Smith, the father, said by telephone at the hearing that he'd prefer a trial as soon as possible. But if the trial were to be put off until the spring of 2016, it would be better to delay it further to make sure the girl doesn't miss classes, Smith said.

"I think it would be preferable to wait," he said.

Jessica Smith told the judge that the date nearly two years from the time of her arrest was acceptable. She is being held without bail.

One of her lawyers, William Falls, said he expects to file a motion about mental health issues, a possible defense.

The 2-year-old was found

dead Aug. 1.

She had been heavily sedated with an over-the-counter antihistamine, according to the state medical examiner. Asphyxiation by drowning was the main cause of death, and the drug was listed as a contributing cause.

District Attorney Josh Marquis hasn't yet said whether he would seek the death penalty.

**Mortgage Advice**  
5¢



**Jeff**  
IS IN

**Need some Mortgage Advice?**  
**Call Jeff**

Home Purchases • Refinances • Equity Lines

**Jeff Sacre**  
Sr. Mortgage Specialist  
NMLS#149352, MLO#149392

(541) 436-2662 Office  
806.1556 Cell

**DIRECTORS**  
Mortgage

Mortgage Advice does not cost 5 cents and this image is used for advertisement purposes only. Mortgage advice is free to all interested borrowers. This is not a commitment to lend. Information deemed reliable but subject to change without notice. Call for details. Consumer Loan License NMLS-3240, CL-3240



AP Photo/The Daily Astorian, Joshua Bessex, Pool

**JESSICA SMITH** appears with her attorneys William Falls, back, and Lynne Morgan, foreground at the Clatsop County County Courthouse for a status hearing Thursday, Jan. 22, 2015, in Astoria, Ore. Smith is charged with aggravated murder and attempted aggravated murder in the drowning death of her 2-year-old and cutting the throat of her teenage daughter in Cannon Beach.

**SALE!**  
**SALE!**  
**SALE!**

**AT HOME**  
ON OAK STREET

**February**  
**Sat 7th ~ Sun 8th**

(541) 386-6687, 105 OAK STREET, HOODRIVER, OR  
[www.athomeonoak.com](http://www.athomeonoak.com)

COLUMBIA CENTER for the ARTS  
presents the CAST Theater production of



**the Full Monty**  
THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

Feb. 13, 14, 19,  
20, 21, 26, 27, 28  
at 7:30 p.m.  
**MATINEE**  
**SHOWING:**  
Feb. 22nd  
at 2:00 p.m.

sponsored in part by:  
**NAKED WINERY**

**TICKETS:** \$18 for adults, \$15 students and seniors  
Groups of 10 or more \$12

**Be part of the show – 8 packages sold for each show, 2 tickets, front row table, a bottle of the Full Monty from Naked Winery and 2 show wine glasses for \$75**

*Tickets available at Waucoma Bookstore, Columbia Art Gallery and online at [www.columbiaarts.org](http://www.columbiaarts.org) ~ 215 Cascade Ave.*

**Hear Better Now!**  
**Free Consult**

**\* In your home or at our office \***

**Hearing Aid Counselors**  
**541-387-3277**

**\$200 off Binaural Fitting**

## WEEKLY SUDOKU

This week's Sudoku presented by:

### YOUR BUSINESS NAME

Answers on Page A9

1			2	3
	4		5	6
3	6	7		8
8	5		6	9
3				9
7	5	4		1
4		8	6	7
6	3	7		
9	1			2

Fill in all 81 squares on the puzzle with numbers 1 to 9. You can use each number 1-9 only once in each nine square section, in each horizontal line of nine squares, and in each vertical column of nine squares. The puzzle is completed when you correctly fill every square.

**Advertise Your Business or Service Here**  
**call 541-386-1234**