NORTHWEST

Woody Guthrie celebrated the Columbia River through song

BRIEFLY

Bundy hires new lawyer in wildlife refuge case

PORTLAND (AP) — The leader of a wildlife refuge occupation in Oregon has retained a new lawyer to defend him against a federal conspiracy charge.

The Oregonian reports that Ammon Bundy has hired J. Morgan Philpot, a former Utah state representative who was born in Oregon. The outspoken tactics of Bundy's previous lawyer, Mike Arnold of Eugene, drew complaints to the Oregon State Bar. Most have been dismissed, but are a few pending questions about his use of social media.

The federal case against more than two dozen people stems from the Bundy-led 41-day occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge earlier this year.

Bundy has pleaded not guilty to the conspiracy charge, possession of firearms in a federal facility and the use or carrying of a firearm during a violent crime.

Man accused of hitting woman with car after parking dispute

MEDFORD (AP) — A Medford man has been accused of hitting a woman with his car in a grocery store parking lot after he say she took his parking spot.

The Mail Tribune reports that the 61-year-old man is being held at the Jackson County Jail on more than \$1 million bail after officials say he struck a woman with his SUV Wednesday, causing bruises and a torn knee ligament.

Officials say the man clipped the 24-year-old woman in the parking lot of WinCo before fleeing the scene and heading to another store.

Police say the man told them he was upset that the woman took his parking spot and he was trying to cut her off as she walked to the store.

He pleaded not guilty on Thursday to assault and a hit-and-run charge.

Corrections

The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

Inslee proclaims Saturday as Woody Guthrie Day

By NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. - Before Macklemore or Nirvana, this land was Woody Guthrie's land.

It was 75 years ago that the celebrated folk singer traveled across Washington and Oregon, composing 26 songs that extolled the virtues of Grand Coulee Dam and the electricity it produced

It was one of the most productive months of Guthrie's career, and will be celebrated on Saturday with a gathering at the giant dam on the Columbia River that remains the nation's greatest producer of hydropower.

The 26 songs composed in the spring of 1941 included favorites like "Roll on Columbia," "Pastures of Plenty," and "The Biggest Thing that Man has Ever Done." Collectively they are known as "The Columbia River Songs."

"He plucked tunes about the people, the mighty Columbia River, the beautiful Northwest landscape and the promise of prosperity from new hydroelectric dams," said Libby Burke, an archivist for the Bonneville Power Administration, the Portland-based federal agency that hired Guthrie. "We're excited to celebrate the music of this great American songwriter and his 30-day employment with us back in 1941."

The BPA planned to use the songs in a documentary about Columbia River hydropower, but the project was abandoned when World War II started. The film, "The Columbia," was finally finished in 1949.

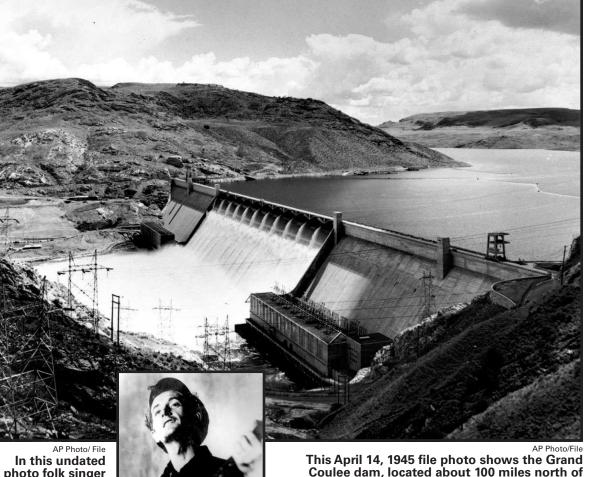


photo folk singer Woody Guthrie plays his guitar.

In honor of the anniversary, Washington Gov. Jay Inslee proclaimed Saturday as Woody Guthrie Day in the state.

Events at the mile-wide dam, located 80 miles west of Spokane, run from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the visitor center. There will be panel

Spokane, Wash. discussions,

readings and film screenings. There is no charge.

BPA is The a federal power marketer that sells wholesale electricity from 31 federal dams and one nuclear plant to 142 electric utilities. Guthrie died in 1967 at the age of

55. He wrote hundreds of songs and

influenced generations of musicians. His best known song is "This Land Is Your Land." Many of his songs were about his experiences during the Great Depression, when he traveled with displaced farmers from Oklahoma to California and learned their traditional folk and blues songs.

Guthrie was married three times and had eight children, including folk musician Arlo Guthrie.

Cloud seeding program continues with collaborative funding

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Idaho water managers say they will step up funding for a cloud seeding program that's already been credited with increasing the state's mountain snowpack.

The Idaho Power Co. program releases silver iodine into the atmosphere, which helps ice form in the clouds and increases precipitation, The Capital Press reported.

The cloud seeding began in 2003. Idaho Power estimates that the extra snowpack creates an average of 800,000 acre-feet of water, roughly the volume of the American Falls Reservoir. It generates enough hydro-power to supply 17,000 homes.

Irrigation organizations, the Idaho Water Resource Board and Idaho Power will each shoulder about a third of the project's cost, according to Idaho Power engineering leader Jon Bowling. "We

wouldn't want our customers to bear the full cost of a program other stakeholders benefit from," said Bowling. "I think we've had a pretty good reception to the collaborative funding mechanism."

The Water Resource Board contributed \$500,000 to help the program add infrastructure two years ago, followed by another \$200,000 last year toward an airplane for cloud seeding in the Upper Snake River Basin, said Brian Patton, the Planning Bureau manager with the Idaho Department of Water Resources.

Water District 1, which includes the Upper Snake system, gave \$200,000 to the program. Watermaster Lyle Swank says his district's contribution is 20 percent of its total budget, but members voted for the contribution.

"When we can extract a little extra moisture from the atmosphere, that can be really helpful," Swank said.

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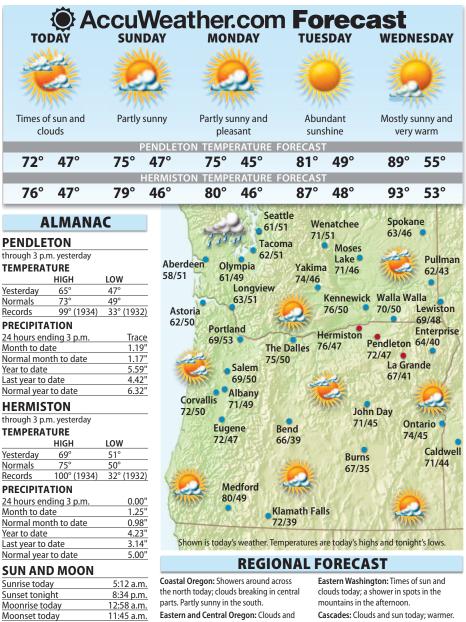
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Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2016

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NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY Sun. Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day. Hi Lo W 62 47 pc Winnipeg 72 39 pc

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some clouds in the interior mountains. Clear

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