



THE DAILY ASTORIAN

142nd YEAR, No. 181

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2015

ONE DOLLAR



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

Thomas Anderson waves to his father, Cmdr. Brian Anderson, as the Coast Guard Cutter Alert prepares to dock in Astoria Sunday.

Bark park gets off to good start

Residents find proposed dog park at John Warren Field quite fetching

By DERRICK DePLEDGE
The Daily Astorian

The Astoria Parks and Recreation Board could recommend a dog park at John Warren Field after the idea received a positive reaction at a town hall meeting at City Hall Tuesday night.

The city would lease the 1.4-acre former home of the Astoria High School Fishermen from Columbia Memorial Hospital until the hospital decides on future development.

The interim site, which the city estimates will cost about \$15,000 to \$20,000 annually to maintain, would give dog owners a fenced, off-leash refuge for their dogs until a permanent location is found.

"It's very positive, what we heard today," Norma Hernandez, the chairwoman of the Parks and Recreation Board, said after the town hall. "So I think we have a great base to give the information back to the rest of

See DOG PARK, Page 10A

BACK TO BASE

Cutter Alert returns after two-month patrol off Central and South America

The Daily Astorian

The U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Alert returned to its homeport in Astoria Sunday after a two-month assignment in Central and South America that included the interception of two smuggling boats and the seizure of 2,300 pounds of cocaine valued at \$28 million.

Along with the narcotics patrol, the Alert twice freed sea turtles caught in abandoned fishing gear and held exercises in shipboard emergency response, navigation proficiency and live-fire gunnery, according to a statement from the Coast Guard.

"It is truly amazing to see a 46-year old cutter still maintain superior performance and capability," Ensign John Locke, the Alert's weapons officer, said in a statement. "Ultimately, it is the crew that makes any mission possible in a very dynamic global environment."



Photos by JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

ABOVE: Cmdr. Brian Anderson greets his children aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Alert after returning to Astoria Sunday. LEFT: Children watch as the Coast Guard Cutter Alert returns to Astoria Sunday.

Forage fish get reprieve

Feds ban new commercial fishing for helper fish

By JEFF BARNARD
Associated Press

Federal fisheries managers Tuesday unanimously adopted a West Coast ban on new commercial fisheries for forage fish, the little fish that big fish and seabirds depend on for food.

The Pacific Fishery Management Council adopted the ban by unanimous vote while meeting in Vancouver, Wash. It now goes to the NOAA Fisheries Service for the development of regulations, which will take several months.

Although no West Coast fishing boats are known to be contemplating new efforts to target forage fish, concern has been mounting that someone would start one to meet increasing demand for feed for aquaculture facilities and fish oil nutritional supplements for people, said Mike Burner, staff officer for the council. It is the council's first action under a new ecosystem approach to fisheries management.

"The intent was not to change current practices, but prevent an uptick in the amount of removals," he said.

See FISH, Page 10A

Spring forward? Oregon bills spark debate



AP Photo/Elise Amendola, File

Dave LeMote uses a wrench to adjust hands on a stainless-steel tower clock at Electric Time Co. Inc. in Medfield, Mass., March 7, 2014.

SALEM (AP) — The twice-a-year ritual of resetting clocks would come to an end under two bills introduced in the Oregon Senate.

A Senate committee held a brief discussion of the issue Tuesday, but it did not vote on the bills.

The idea has cropped up in more than a half-dozen statehouses, but it's generated more talk than action. In Oregon, there was no sign that lawmakers seemed ready to depart from the other two states in the Pacific time zone.

Still, the proposal invited dozens of emailed comments from constituents to lawmakers

"A great number of peo-

ple have written in saying, 'We should just abolish this. We don't need to have this archaic practice any longer,'" said Sen. Kim Thatcher of Keizer, a Republican who sponsored one of the bills on behalf of a constituent. "There are also a lot of people on the other side of the issue saying, 'I would miss daylight saving time.'"

Time-change lovers say it would be chaotic for Oregon to depart from its West Coast neighbors, with which it shares the strong economic and cultural ties, making it more difficult to commute or plan meetings. They say daylight saving time allows

See BILLS, Page 10A

coast
weekend



THURSDAY

Prelude to a festival

