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ONE DOLLAR

Senate delays Buckmaster hearing



Bruce Buckmaster

Objections raised over fish and wildlife commission nominees

By HILLARY BORRUD
Capital Bureau

SALEM — The state Senate will delay until next week a hearing on controversial appointees to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife

Commission to allow more time for senators to vet them.

Groups have raised concerns about an appointee with ties to the commercial fishing industry, and cattle ranchers are also worried that none of the candidates come from

the livestock industry.

Gov. Kate Brown announced the appointment of 96 candidates to state boards and commissions, including two reappointments and two new appointees to the Fish and Wildlife Commission, in late

April. Brown reappointed two current commission members — Holly Akenson of Enterprise, and Michael Finley of Medford — and she appointed Bruce Buckmaster of Astoria to fill a vacant seat and Jason Atkinson of Jacksonville to

replace Bobby Levy, whose term on the commission ended Jan. 1.

Buckmaster previously owned a salmon feed company and served on the board of Salmon for All, a group that represents commercial fishermen, processors and other businesses on the lower Columbia

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Roden sentenced to prison for probation violation



Photos by JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

Defense lawyer Conor Huseby, right, speaks with Randy Roden, left, during a hearing at the Clatsop County Courthouse Wednesday.

Couple accused of murdering 2-year-old will not get bail

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

Randy Lee Roden, the live-in boyfriend accused of murdering his girlfriend's 2-year-old daughter at their Seaside home in December, was sentenced Wednesday to 100 months, or about eight years, in prison for a probation violation from a previous domestic violence conviction.

Roden, 27, a former Georgia resident, was released from prison in January 2014 after being sentenced to 18 months for coercion related to a domestic violence case in Clatsop County against another woman.

He faced 52 counts of domestic violence and sex abuse in that case, which were dropped as part of his plea deal. The plea deal included Roden being on probation after his release.

Roden violated the probation by possessing marijuana, oxycodone and methadone and failing to report that he moved in with Dorothy Ann Wing, according to testimony from

his probation officer, Patrick McKerren, and Seaside Police Detective Jason Goodding during a hearing Wednesday in Clatsop County Circuit Court.

The drugs were discovered during a search warrant of Roden and Wing's Seaside residence Dec. 20, when the toddler was found dead.

"For moving to a residence and smoking some marijuana, this seems severe," Roden's defense lawyer Robert B. Axford said.

In addition to the probation violation, Judge Paula Brownhill ruled Wednesday that Roden and Wing will remain in custody without the possibility of bail. The decision does not impact Roden, who was sentenced to serve in prison for more than eight years no matter the result of the murder charges.

"This child was in the care of the two defendants in December 2014. While in their custody, she was murdered," Judge Brownhill said.

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Judge Paula Brownhill listens to arguments from defense lawyer John Gutbezahl at the Clatsop County Courthouse Wednesday.

Local crisis respite center idea takes shape

Mentally ill to be served

By DERRICK DePLEDGE
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — A crisis respite center planned for Warrenton could provide sanctuary for the mentally ill in situations when prison or hospitalization are not options.

Clatsop County, Columbia Memorial Hospital, Providence Seaside and Greater Oregon Behavioral Health are in discussions on a 16-bed residential treatment facility in Warrenton. The partners could contract with Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare, which now provides mental health services for the county.

The collaboration recognizes that improving mental health coverage is a priority for the state and that counties have not been able to adequately serve people in acute mental crisis due to a lack of specialized facilities.

Clatsop County Manager Scott Somers said the idea initially was to have a "safe room" as an alternative when prison or hospitalization are not warranted or possible. "The stars have aligned in Clatsop County and we're seeing great collaboration because we're able to get a 16-bed respite facility together instead of one safe room," he said.

The Clatsop County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously Wednesday night to authorize Davis Wright Tremaine, a Seattle-based law firm with an office in Portland, to represent the partnership.

The law firm will provide advice on the creation of the crisis respite center, tax-exemption considerations and governance.

Somers said the crisis respite center could open late this year or early next year.

Counties and cities have urged the state Legislature to make funding mental health services, particularly crisis care, a priority.

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Teen health is focus of seminar

Outreach organized after annual teen sexuality conference canceled

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

Being able to instantly message a friend or search any information online has made life much easier for this generation's teenagers, but it has also caused pressure and confusion as they enter adulthood.

Better understanding today's teenagers was a main focus of "The Adolescent Mind & Body Health Seminar," a two-day event last weekend hosted by the Clatsop Teen Wellness Coalition.

"If we can't, as adults, inform ourselves about the is-

ssues that children and young people are facing, we are failing them and we are failing our community," said Astoria City Councilor Drew Herzig, a member of the Teen Wellness Coalition.

The all-volunteer coalition formed shortly after an annual teen sexuality conference in Seaside was canceled over criticism of the content, leaving what many saw as a void in sex education. The seminar on Friday and Saturday at Clatsop Community College was the group's first event.

The free seminar started Friday in Columbia Hall with

a panel discussion featuring Herzig, who is also with the Lower Columbia Diversity Project; Clatsop County Public Health Director Brian Mahoney; child and adolescent therapist Liz Covey; Clatsop County Deputy District Attorney Ron Brown and community activist Tessa Scheller.

The panel was moderated by Julie Soderberg, the executive director of The Harbor, which works with victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse. Soderberg asked the panel three questions:

- What experiences inspired you to get involved in the community?
- Why do you feel access to information about healthy relationships and sexuality is



KYLE SPURR — The Daily Astorian

A panel discussion Friday featured, from left, Clatsop County Public Health Director Brian Mahoney; child and adolescent therapist Liz Covey; community member Tessa Scheller; Drew Herzig of the Lower Columbia Diversity Project; and Clatsop County Deputy District Attorney Ron Brown.

vital to the health of youths as well as the health and wellness of the entire community?

- What do you believe are the biggest barriers to educating teens about health rela-

tionship and sexuality? The impact of technology was brought up multiple times during the panel discussion.

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