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## 'May you live in interesting times'



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum answers audience questions at the Columbia Forum event Tuesday. At the event, Rosenblum also announced she will run for re-election next year.

## State attorney general assesses job, announces second run

By KYLE SPURR  
The Daily Astorian

When thinking of challenges the state has faced since 2012, Oregon's Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum playfully recalls of the Chinese curse, "May you live in interesting times."

Rosenblum, the first woman to serve as Oregon attorney general, discussed the various challenges and initiatives of her office during a Columbia Forum talk, "A mid-term assessment from Oregon's chief law enforcement officer," Tuesday at the CMH Community Center in Astoria.

After being appointed June 29, 2012, to replace John Kroger, Rosenblum said, she never imagined she would prosecute an international drug cartel, be a major player in the fight for same-sex marriage and sue Oracle Corp, a huge multinational corporation, for \$1 billion.

And, most recently, help investigate former Gov. John Kitzhaber, following his resignation.

"None of these crossed my mind at the time," Rosenblum said. "And when I came over here for an interview with your newspaper and radio station, you sure didn't ask



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

It was a packed room in the Columbia Memorial Hospital community center as people gathered to listen to Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum.

me about those things, and there is no reason to think you should."

Following her talk, Rosenblum put any rumors to bed and announced she will run for re-election next year.

"I love this job. I'm honored to have gotten to serve. For me, it's really brought together my entire career and makes me feel like I can serve you well, based, in part, on who I am and what I care about," Rosenblum said. "With your indulgence, I do plan to run for a second term."

Rosenblum, a former federal prosecutor and state trial and ap-

pellate judge, was elected to a four-year term as Oregon's 17th attorney general in November 2012.

Rosenblum noted Tuesday that she embraces being dubbed a watchdog or "mother bear" over Oregon. As attorney general, she has advocated for families, children, seniors and those whose first language is not English. She considers Internet and other crimes against children her highest priority.

A majority of her talk Tuesday revolved around her work with consumer protection.

This week, the Oregon Depart-

ment of Justice released its Top 10 list of consumer complaints in 2014. The top complaint was for IRS imposter calls, followed by magazine subscription fraud, telecommunications and motor vehicle sales.

Rosenblum said the state DOJ consumer complaint hotline received 50,000 calls last year and thousands of written complaints.

"Unfair business practices don't just hurt consumers, but damage honest businesses by giving everyone a bad name," Rosenblum said.

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## Being cool with school

P-3 council helps kids and parents prepare for kindergarten

By EDWARD STRATTON  
The Daily Astorian

The P-3 Early Learning Council was recently funded for the second of the three-year grant from the Oregon Community Foundation. And it has big plans for the coming spring to help prepare children — and their parents — for a successful start to kindergarten.

The Oregon Community Foundation gave the council a three-year grant, worth \$225,000 in total, funded through the Lora L. & Martin N. Kelley Family Foundation Trust and the Fred W. Fields Fund. The council has to reapply each year for each \$75,000 annual allotment.

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## Gearhart taxes to go down slightly

Water bonds will be refinanced

By NANCY MCCARTHY  
The Daily Astorian

GEARHART — Gearhart taxpayers will see a slight reduction in the property taxes they pay to finance the city's water system beginning next year.

The Gearhart City Council unanimously agreed Wednesday night to take advantage of low finance rates and refinance the \$4 million general obligation bond that was passed in 2005. The bond went to help pay for the development of the city's water system.

By refinancing the bond, the city will save more than \$428,000 in finance costs over 10 years. That amounts to \$17 per year on property assessed at \$200,000, according to Katie Schwab, senior vice president for Wedbush Securities, which has handled the city's bond measures.

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## City's insurance may not cover home's damage

Cannon Beach homeowners' property flooded after sudden Jan. 7 water line breakage

By ERICK BENGEL  
EO Media Group

CANNON BEACH — The city of Cannon Beach's insurance company has so far declined to cover the exterior flood damage done to a property owner's home after a water line in the north end ruptured last month.

On the evening of Jan. 7, a PVC pipe that runs uphill from the Ash Street pump station to the north reservoir suddenly broke, emptying the reservoir's 30,000 gallons of water onto Ash, Seventh and Larch streets in under 10 minutes, Public Works Director Dan Grassick said. At least 100 homes were without water until about 2:30 a.m. Jan. 8, when the public works crew had replaced the

damaged section of pipe and restored water service.

The deluge flushed gravel and debris onto several properties, including the West Seventh Street property of Douglas and Karen Hadley.

"That water flow was huge," said Douglas Hadley, who, at the time of the incident, was in Charlevoix, Mich., where they live. The city informed him of the incident on Jan. 9. Hadley later flew to Oregon to see the damage for himself.

Though no water got inside the house, it flowed under and around it. The Hadleys' insurance investigator said the accident appears to have resulted in a broken fence and brick walkway, an undermined retaining wall, some shattered skirting and four support posts no longer in contact with floor joints. The structure now sags in places, producing faint cracks in the paint and ceiling where the house has started to settle.



ERICK BENGEL — EO Media Group

As a result of flooding caused by the city's water line rupture in early January, the brick walkway on the west side of Douglas and Karen Hadley's house has partially fallen into the skirting. An estimate of damages to the house and yard, along with travel expenses and lost rental income, is \$15,000 and growing.

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