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JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

Clatsop Community College's Small Business Development Center, headed by Kevin Leahy, won the Small Business Development Center Excellence and Innovation Award from the Small Business Association.

'We're really all one here'

Partnerships, innovation, service lauded at business awards

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — Economic development is about more than individual companies, Clatsop Community College President Lawrence Galizio said Wednesday night.

"It's about communities working together to promote the standard of living," he said, speaking to a crowd of businesspeople, local officials, educational leaders and others gathered for Clatsop Economic Development Resources' annual business awards reception at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center.

Galizio first honored Kevin Leahy, the leader of CEDR and CCC's Small Business Development Center. The SBDC recently won the Small Business Association's Small Business Development Center Excellence and Innovation Award, naming it the best center out of 19 in the state and eligible for a national award.

"What happens in Arch Cape impacts Westport (Wash.)," Leahy said about the interconnectedness of the coast. "And you look at the winners here, we're really all one here."

Community Partnership

A new honor this year was the Community Partnership Award, which went to Columbia Memorial Hospital, represented by Eric Thorsen; Astoria School District,

represented by Superintendent Craig Hoppes; the city of Astoria, represented by Mayor Arline LaMear; and Recology Western Oregon, represented by Community Liaison Debbie Hamel.

The four entities all partnered and gained in an effort to develop the Astoria Sports Complex, the new 1,300-seat, multiuse sports field, and CMH field, named for the hospital's \$7.5 million investment.

In exchange, CMH received Warren Field to eventually develop; the school district got a new arena; the city found a suitable way to cap the former landfill, closed for 20 years and difficult to develop because of its past; and Recology got utilities extended to its transfer station next to the sports complex.

"I'm a Warrenton graduate, so I never thought I would be building a football field for Astoria," Thorsen said, adding the partnership will allow CMH, the second largest employer in the county, to expand even more and provide new services and partnerships with Oregon Health & Science University.

Business awards

CEDR lauded six businesses for their accomplishments and service to the community, including:

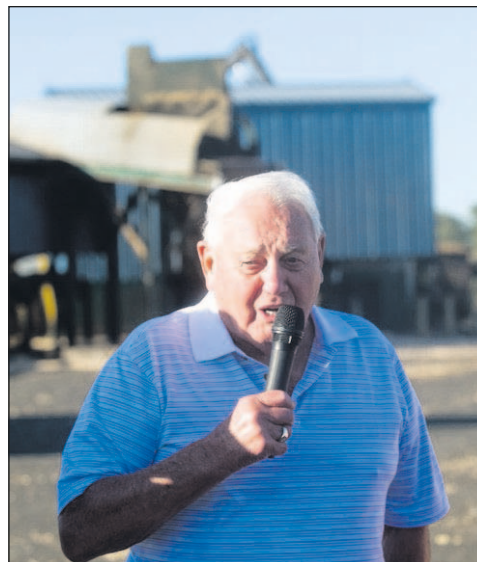
- **Warrenton Fiber-Nygaard Logging for Economic Impact:** The fourth-generation, family-owned company was started in

See AWARDS, Page 10A



Photo courtesy of Scott Holmstedt

Partners in the Astoria Sports Complex, including Columbia Memorial Hospital, Astoria School District, the city of Astoria and Recology Western Oregon, each received a Community Partnership Award Wednesday from Clatsop Economic Development Resources at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center.



Warrenton Fiber Co. founder Martin Nygaard describes some of its operations at the Tansy Point location in Warrenton they have leased since 1986. The company, linked with Nygaard Logging, is one of the largest employers in Clatsop County, with more than 140 employees, and received the CEDR Economic Impact Award Wednesday.

Daily Astorian file

It's all in the data

Advocates use mapping to save Newport Coast Guard helicopter

By DERRICK DePLEDGE
The Daily Astorian

The Surfrider Foundation has turned to data mapping in the quest to help save a U.S. Coast Guard search and rescue helicopter in Newport.

A cartographer working with the California-based nonprofit environmental group used seven years of incident response data from the Coast Guard to demonstrate the value of a rescue helicopter in Newport to commercial fishermen, recreational boaters and surfers on the central Oregon Coast.

Last year, the Coast Guard wanted to withdraw a MH-65 Dolphin helicopter from Newport because of budget constraints. Search and rescue operations would have been handled by crews at Air Station North

See DATA, Page 10A

There is an app for this

Wellville app offers way to cut calories, donate to local food bank

By The Daily Astorian

The Way to Wellville, a five-community, five-year challenge to improve health, is offering a free phone app, called foodtweeks, to Clatsop County residents.



The free app helps the user learn how to trim calories and improve nutrition. It also offers a chance to donate healthy food to the Clatsop Community Action Regional Food Bank.

The app helps raise awareness of the calories eaten every day and how to donate extra food to feed hungry in Clatsop County, according to the

See WELLVILLE, Page 10A

Knappa student gets Blue Book high-five

By PETER WONG
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Eight elementary and middle-school students from across Oregon were recognized for their essays about the state in the newest edition of the Oregon Blue Book, which was released Tuesday. Third-grader Jaxon Dietrichs from MaryAnn Hansen's class at Hilda Lahti Elementary in Knappa was a runner-up in the essay contest and is featured in the book.

The state's official directory and unofficial almanac has been published every other year since its debut in 1911. The cost is \$18, and can be obtained online from the Secretary of State's office, or in selected bookstores.

An electronic version also is maintained by the Archives Division of the secretary of state.

Kate Brown became governor Feb. 18. A page was added to the new edition noting her assumption of the governorship and her appointment of Jeanne Atkins to succeed her as secretary of state.

One new feature in this edition is an essay contest that Brown, then secretary of state, patterned after student writing and artwork samples featured in a photo exhibit about rural schools more than a century ago.

Elementary school students were asked to write about why they like to live in Oregon. Middle school students were asked to write about their favorite place in Oregon and why.

The winning essays and three runners-up were reproduced in the Blue Book. Two are illustrated by drawings.



Peter Wong/Pamplin Media Group

Jaxon Dietrichs, a third-grader at Knappa's Hilda Lahti Elementary School, wrote an essay featured in this year's Oregon Blue Book.

See BLUE BOOK, Page 10A

