

Astoria moves forward with new fire truck

City also wants to intervene in Oregon LNG review

By **DERRICK DePLEGGE**
The Daily Astorian

The Astoria Fire Department might get a new aerial ladder truck. The department wants the new truck to replace a ladder truck that is nearly 30 years old and showing signs of stress. The Astoria City Council voted Monday night to move ahead with purchasing a ladder truck for more than \$880,000. The city would transfer \$500,000 of a projected \$2.5 million carryover balance at the start of the next fiscal

year in July to the capital improvement fund and use the money as a down payment for the ladder truck. The city might use some of the money it expects to receive from carbon credits for less aggressive timber harvests in the Bear Creek watershed over the next decade to make the remaining payments on the truck. "It's getting old. It's getting tired," Astoria Fire Chief Ted Ames said of the existing ladder truck. "It's been through two rounds of repairs since I started here in Astoria and it just left this morning for its third round of repairs. "And it gets to the point where

you want to kind of bite the bullet and think of it as an investment." Last year, the council backed the purchase of a new pumper truck for more than \$488,000. The city is using lease revenue from the 17th Street Dock Fund to pay for the truck. In other business Monday night the council: • Voted to file a motion to intervene in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's review of the Oregon LNG project. The firm wants to build an 87-mile pipeline between Washington state and Oregon and a liquefied natural

gas export terminal on the Skipanon Peninsula in Warrenton. The federal government's comment period on the \$6 billion project has ended. But Astoria's intervention motion contends that the project will impact the city's residents, services and infrastructure. Among other concerns, Astoria maintains that the pipeline and terminal may call on the emergency response resources of the city and that the proposed facilities might impact natural resources at the mouth of the Columbia River. City Councilor Cindy Price requested the motion to intervene. Critics of Oregon LNG, including several who attended the council

meeting Monday night, want the city to consider a resolution formally opposing the project. A Warrenton hearings officer is expected to weigh the project in May. • Agreed to increase the pay rate for the deputy police chief by 4 percent and to move the deputy and the police chief into the same salary schedule as other police employees. The rate increase addresses salary compression between the deputy police chief and sergeants that had discouraged a sergeant from seeking promotion. Last year, the council had agreed to a 4 percent bump for sergeants to address salary compression between sergeants and police officers.

Record-breaking year for Jane Barnes Revue

The Astoria Downtown Historic District Association's Jane Barnes Revue was a show-stopping success in its fifth year.

This year's topsy-turvy fashion show March 28 featured some of Astoria's finest men donning wigs and dresses to cavort down a 24-foot catwalk at the Astoria Event Center. The fundraiser attracted an audience of 190 and raised \$14,000 to support ADHDA in its mission to encourage community involvement and investment in preserving the character of historic downtown Astoria while promoting its health and future.

Originally meant to celebrate Jane Barnes, the first European woman of Astoria, as part Astoria's bicentennial celebrations in 2011, the Jane Barnes Revue has become an evening of "Gentlemen Janes" divulging their feminine side while raising money for the organization.

With the addition of a live auction last year, the Jane Barnes Revue has



Brad Smithart, performing as Lady Terrar, reacts while being motorboated by an audience member during the Jane Barnes Revue at the Astoria Event Center Saturday.

transformed into ADHDA's second largest fundraiser, after the Pacific Northwest Brew Cup. The success of the 2015 event was made possible by the outpouring of support from local community sponsors, including title sponsor Holly McHone Jewelers and

event sponsors Astoria Coffeehouse and Bistro, Baked Alaska, Buoy Beer Co., Columbia Memorial Hospital, Fort George Brewery, North Coast Distilling, North Coast Food Web, Vintage Hardware, Van Dusen Beverages, Salon Verve, Malama Day

Spa, T. Paul's Supper Club and the "Gentlemen Janes." Those interested in participating and supporting ADHDA's efforts to enhance Astoria's historic downtown should contact Alana Garner at 503-791-7940 or Alana@astoriadowntown.com

Knappa begins search for new superintendent

By **EDWARD STRATTON**
The Daily Astorian

KNAPPA — The Knappa School District Board of Directors on Monday hired Greg McKenzie of Window to Leadership LLC to start the search for its replacement for Superintendent Jeff Leo.

"It seems like we were just here," said McKenzie, who helped find Leo.

Leo started with Knappa in 2009 as principal of Knappa High School, while Jim Carlile was interim superintendent. In 2011, Leo became superintendent, while remaining principal as well, to save the district money amid budget cuts.

On April 14, the Banks School District Board hired Leo as its superintendent, effective July 1. With 2 1/2 months left in Knappa, Leo said he doesn't even want to start talking about his resignation.

The search for Leo's replacement will start with a community meeting at 6 p.m. Monday in Knappa High School's library. McKenzie will facilitate a public comment period, followed by school board deliberation before a decision is made on how the district will proceed.

McKenzie recommended searching for a permanent superintendent/principal combination, while being ready to hire an interim if the right candidate isn't found initially.

"The next question becomes 'What are we searching for?'" he said, adding that the superintendent/principal is a common

position for a district of Knappa's size and the easiest to find candidates for. Some districts have opted to share superintendents, he added, but the logistics of how they divide their time can be a challenge.

Earlier in the meeting, KHS Program Assistant Tammy Goozee had approached the board to relay her desire for a dedicated principal at KHS, and maybe a part-time superintendent, a notion supported by others in the district.

When Knappa was undergoing budget cuts a couple years ago, Leo said, he agreed to be superintendent and principal of grades seven through 12 to save money.

"I sympathize with Tammy, but we just don't have the money," board member Ed Johnson said, echoed later by Leo, who said that anything Knappa does can't cost more than its current situation.

If the district looks for a part-time superintendent, McKenzie said, it's relegated its search to candidates desperate for a job or already retired. McKenzie had previously helped Jewell, a district of around 150 students, hire Alice Hunsaker as a part-time superintendent and Mike Scott as the full-time K-12 principal.

Start the process now, McKenzie said, and Knappa could hire someone by mid-June and know by June 1 whether it needs an interim. But he cautioned that the community needs to be on board, or else it will be difficult for a new hire.



Jeff Leo

Health screenings coming to Warrenton

WARRENTON — Residents living in and around the Astoria/Warrenton area can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, and other chronic, serious conditions with screenings by Life Line Screening. Calvary Assembly of God will host this community event on May 4 at 1365 S. Main Ave. in Warrenton.

Screenings can check for: The level of plaque buildup in arteries, related to risk for heart disease, stroke and overall vascular health; high-density lipoprotein (HDL) and low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol levels; diabetes risk; bone density as a risk for possible osteoporosis; kidney and thyroid function, and more.

Screenings are accessible for wheelchairs and those with trouble walking, and free parking is available. Packages start at \$149, but consultants are available to create a package that is right for the individual based on age and risk factors.

Preregistration is required. To make an appointment, call 877-237-1287 or go to www.lifelinescreening.com

Public welcome to meet with Councilor Herzig

The public is invited to meet with Drew Herzig, Astoria City Councilor for Ward 2, from noon to 1:30 p.m. Saturday in the Flag Room at the Astoria

Public Library, 450 10th St.

All are welcome to come and share their thoughts, suggestions, questions, and concerns about Astoria.

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