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ONE DOLLAR

The Arctic Sea beckons WHS



Ashley Fish, left, pilots the S.S. Bentley robot, while Rachel Najera, center left, Deangelo Montejo, center, and Charles Burrows, test out the S.S. Lost Cause, the red and white robot. See more photos online at www.dailyastorian.com

School learns lessons from threat

Alarming call prompts Ocean Beach School District to go into lockdown

By KATIE WILSON EO Media Group

LONG BEACH, Wash. — Even though the anonymous April 16 phone call threatening a mass-shooting at Long Beach Elementary remained only that — a threat — Ocean Beach School District administrators are using the experience to re-examine how the district handles lockdowns and emergency situations.

When the buildings went into lockdown that afternoon, few parents realized what was going on. District administrators posted a message on Facebook and on the district website. E-mails went out as well. But they had no way to send out a mass alert to parents' phones.

Now the district plans to install communication systems that will allow them to send out a mass alert in the form of a phone call or a text — much in the same way the county is able to alert citizens of tsunami warnings.

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House sets rules for police cameras

By PETER WONG Capital Bureau

SALEM — A negotiated bill will set the rules for how police may use body cameras to record their interactions with the public.

Under the bill, which the House Judiciary Committee approved on a 7-2 vote Tuesday, videos can be released if they are determined to be in the public interest — but only if faces are made unidentifiable.

Portland is considering the issue, and the Columbia County sheriff and Hermiston police have decided to equip their officers with them.

Committee Chairman Jeff Barker, a Democrat from Aloha and a retired Portland police lieutenant, said House Bill 2571 does not require agencies to use body cameras. He said its intent is to set uniform rules for agencies that choose to do so.

Officers can activate cameras "continuously" upon reasonable suspicion or probable cause that a crime or violation is being committed. The cameras can be turned off once an officer's participation ends.

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Robotics teams compete to be state's best

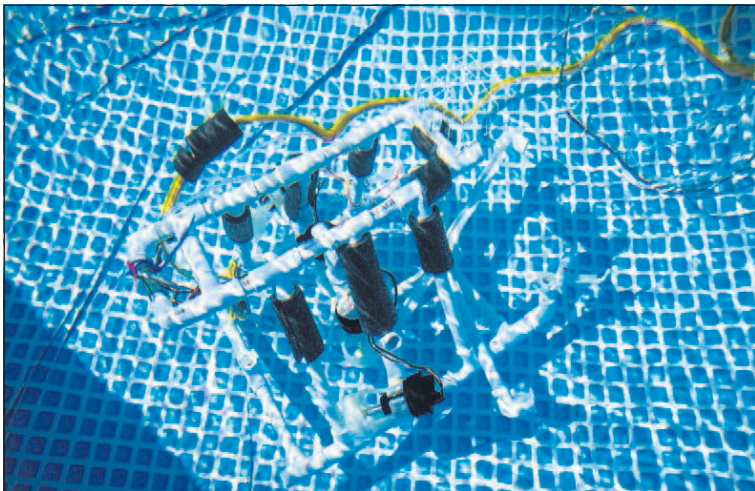
By EDWARD STRATTON The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Warrenton High School's underwater robotics teams are headed to the Arctic Sea on a mission.

The team's remotely operated vehicles (ROVs) are needed to dive underneath the ice, collect samples of algae and sea urchins; identify and count species of sea stars; deploy an acoustic sensor; and survey an iceberg to determine its volume.

In reality, the North Bend Swimming Pool will have to stand in for the Arctic; ping-pong balls for algae; O-balls for the sea urchins; and PVC pipe sections for the acoustic sensors and icebergs.

Three teams from Josh Jannusch's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) course, who have each built their own underwater remotely operated vehicles, are heading to North Bend Saturday for "Science and Industry in the Arctic," the 2015 Oregon Regional Marine Advanced



The S.S. Bentley sits at the bottom of the test pool at Warrenton High School. The robot must be able to collect samples of algae and sea urchins under a simulated ice sheet and identify starfish species during the Ranger class of the Oregon Regional Marine Advanced Technology Education's robotics competition.

Technology Education's (MATE) ROV Competition.

"A lot of this is geared toward helping kids find out about jobs in the field they might not have known about," said Jannusch, who started his STEM class this year

with the help of his principal and a grant for the Verizon Foundation.

The grant helped pay for robotics and other class materials, and for Jannusch to travel to a faculty workshop through SeaMATE, where he learned how to incorpo-

rate the building of ROVs his students will put into regional competitions.

Blue Rangers by the pool

The Blue Rangers, one of WHS' three teams, finished a test run April 17 of their robot, S.S. Bentley, in the school's improvised Arctic Sea: a backyard swimming pool with plastic ice through which their ROV descended into the depths — all 4 feet of them — to hook sea urchins and scoop up algae.

"We had a lot of trial and error," said junior Brenton Davis, one of five members on the team, along with seniors Michael Suppa and Shaden Moss; and juniors Ashley Fish and Justice Watson.

Their team assembled every part of the S.S. Bentley, from its PVC frame, the claw that gathers the sea urchins and the net to scoop in algae to the hand-soldered remote control, motors and the shrouds protecting them, created using the classes' 3D printer.

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Scotch broom removal a Sisyphean task

David Snodgrass and his crew work to contain invasive species

By ERICK BENGEL EO Media Group

CANNON BEACH — It takes trained eyes and hours of tedious physical labor to prevent Scotch broom — the invasive European shrub that sprouts golden yellow flowers and produces thousands of seeds — from overrunning the sand dunes west of Chapman Point.

But, during the last 13 years, the Chapman Point Homeowners Association has hired local contractors to scale back the noxious, colonizing species to a level that is increasingly manageable from year to year, according to Ken McQuhae, a Chapman Point homeowner. For a time, McQuhae himself pulled out the plants with the help of a paid assistant.

Earlier this month, David Snodgrass, president and co-owner of Dennis' 7 Dees Landscaping & Garden Centers, and his three-man crew took their shovels out to the



Miles Lawson, a crew member with Dennis' 7 Dees in Seaside, uses a shovel to uproot Scotch broom growing west of Chapman Point. In Newport, he pulled invasive species, including Scotch broom, for a community-action agency.

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