

Burnard throws no-hitter No. 5

SPORTS • 4A



Hands Across the Sands

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ONE DOLLAR

FROM HARLEM, WITH GRACE



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

Dancers, including Lindsey Croop and Fredrick Davis, center, with the Dance Theatre of Harlem perform "New Bach" at the Liberty Theater Saturday. See more of Joshua's photos of the dancers and their performance online at www.dailyastorian.com

Dancers offer students rare look inside world of ballet

By DERRICK DePLEDGE
The Daily Astorian

The lights went down in the Liberty Theater Friday morning and more than 200 rambunctious young students turned their eyes up toward the stage.

"Shhh!" teachers and parents hushed.

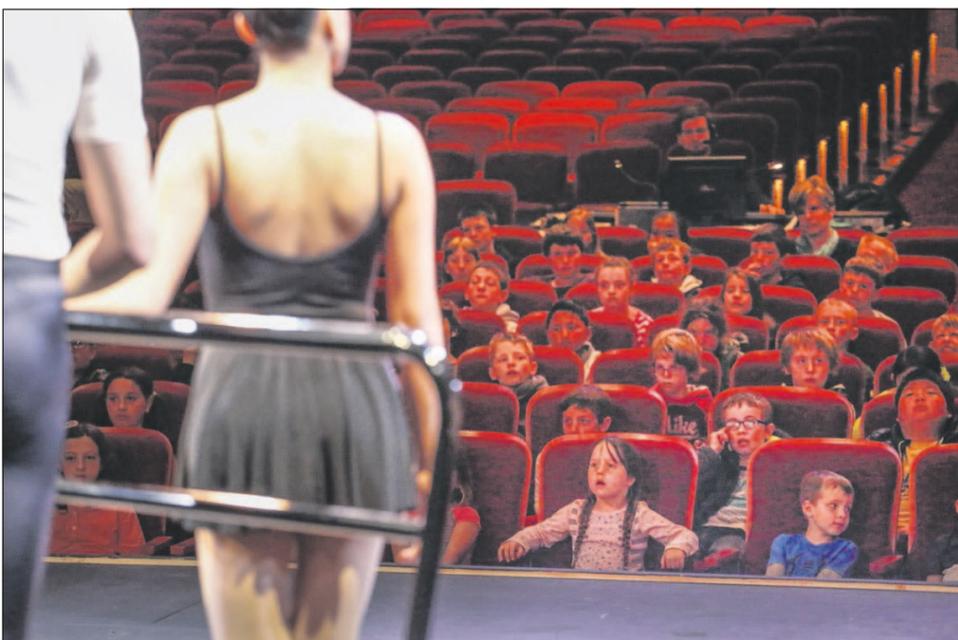
Keith Saunders, ballet master for the Dance Theatre of Harlem, explained the rigor and discipline necessary for a professional dancer to stay sharp.

Like a chef making a soufflé, the ballet master, using his dancers as visual aids, carefully took the students through the five basic positions of ballet and the fundamental movements before treating them to excerpts from the New York ballet company's repertoire.

Students learned about the turnout — the foundational stance of ballet; the demi-plié — the slight bending of the knees; and en pointe — where dancers balance on the tips of their toes.

Once Saunders revealed the mechanics, students watched in wonder as the lithe dancers pulled the techniques together in elements of "New Bach," by choreographer Robert Garland; "Tschaikovsky Pas De Deux," by choreographer George Balanchine; and "Vessels," by choreographer Darrell Grand Moultrie.

After the finale, the vibrant "Return (Mother Popcorn)," a Garland piece that fuses classical ballet with



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

Local elementary school students watch as members of the Dance Theatre of Harlem demonstrate ballet dance techniques at the Liberty Theater Friday. Students got the opportunity to learn about the origins of ballet, ask questions and see demonstrations by the performers.

the soul music of James Brown, many students were jumping out of their seats.

Stephanie Snyder, who accompanied her daughter, a student at Seaside Heights Elementary School, was surprised the famed ballet company made a stop in Astoria.

"I think it's just absolutely amazing," she said.

See **BALLET**, Page 10A



Virginia Johnson, artistic director at the Dance Theatre of Harlem, left, leads a ballet class in the Paulson Pavilion at the Liberty Theater Friday. JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

Cutter leader to contest removal

Steadfast commander claimed Coast Guard ship was in disrepair

By DERRICK DePLEDGE
The Daily Astorian



Cmdr. John Bitterman

The attorney for a U.S. Coast Guard commander temporarily relieved from his post on the Astoria-based Cutter Steadfast said Monday that the commander is a whistleblower who called attention to the ship's poor condition. Cmdr. John Bitterman was temporarily relieved last week for what the Coast Guard described as a loss of confidence in his leadership abilities.

See **REMOVAL**, Page 10A

Power needs of pot

Marijuana growers' use of electricity sparks concerns

By HILLARY BORRUD
Capital Bureau

SALEM — As Oregon prepares for legal marijuana July 1, the state's energy agency is looking for ways to curb electricity use by indoor pot growers.

Indoor marijuana gardens are well-known power hogs, but Oregon faces a dilemma as it researches how to extend its energy efficiency programs to the cannabis industry: federal money that typically helps pay for efficiency projects cannot be used for any activities that involve pot.

"We don't have answers to that yet, which is why we're looking at it so carefully," said Rachel Wray, a spokeswoman for the Oregon Department of Energy. "It is an emerging energy issue and we pay attention to those."

See **POT**, Page 10A

Staying calm, organized to help save lives

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

The key to successfully working as a 911 dispatcher is being able to multitask at an intense level while staying calm the entire time, according to Astoria Dispatcher Summer Bartlett.

Unlike other jobs behind a desk, Bartlett must stay calm and organized on the phone while often listening to a distressed person explaining details of an emergency.

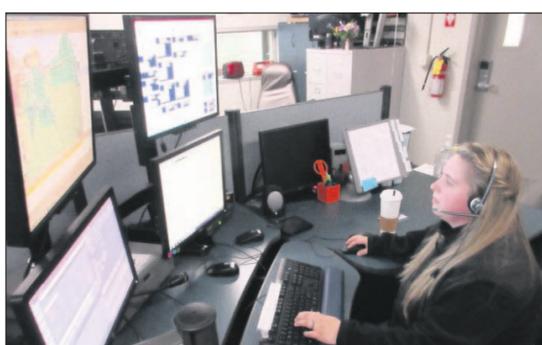
If a dispatcher misses what someone says, it could become a safety issue for the caller and the responding police officers or firefighters, Bartlett said.

"You have to be able to



Everyday People

handle six 911 lines ringing, answering the radios, sending the fire departments to things," Bartlett said. "There is an intense level of multitasking. It's not like someone



KYLE SPURR — The Daily Astorian

Summer Bartlett, an Astoria 911 Dispatcher for seven years, has to multitask on six different 911 lines, work fast and stay calm during her shift. If she misses what someone says on the other line, it could become a safety issue for the caller or responding officers or firefighters.

doing their homework and watching TV."

Bartlett is one of six full-time dispatchers in the Astoria

911 Dispatch Center, which receives calls for Astoria Police, Warrenton Police, Clatsop County Sheriff's Office and area fire departments.

Dispatchers across the country have been honored this month as part of National 911 Education Month. In addition, the second full week in April is designated as National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week.

Phone time

In 2014, Astoria, Seaside and Medix Dispatch centers received about 16,500 calls.

Astoria Police recognized its local dispatchers on its Facebook page this month,

See **BARTLETT**, Page 10A

