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ONE DOLLAR



Photo courtesy of the Columbia River Maritime Museum

Students from Tongue Point Job Corps Center scoured and repainted the pilot vessel Peacock at the Columbia River Maritime Museum.

Mayor urges state to block LNG

Astoria residents also ask DEQ to act

By DERRICK DePLEDGE
The Daily Astorian

Astoria Mayor Arline LaMear urged the state Department of Environmental Quality Thursday to block Oregon LNG from building an export terminal in Warrenton, warning the project has the potential to threaten the health and safety of residents. The mayor said Clatsop County has rejected a pipeline for the project and the department is well positioned to deny water-quality certification, like the state did for the Bradwood Landing LNG project east of Astoria several years ago.



Arline LaMear

"Please help us keep Astoria and our beautiful Columbia River safe and healthy," LaMear told the Environmental Quality Commission, the department's policy and rulemaking board, which held its August meeting at the Hampton Inn and Suites in Astoria.

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Lunch for free

Government to pick up tab for Astoria lunches

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

There will be such a thing as a free lunch and breakfast at John Jacob Astor and Lewis and Clark elementary schools this year, courtesy of the National School Lunch Program.

The Astoria School Board on Wednesday OK'd participation in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Community Eligibility Provision, which will provide federal reimbursements for meals for at least the next four years because of the schools' high poverty rate.

The provision arose from the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, allowing schools with high poverty rates to provide free breakfast and lunch to all students. It also eliminates the administrative burden of collecting applications for free and reduced meals.

Astor and Lewis and Clark became eligible because at least 40 percent of their students are eligible for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and/or are considered homeless runaways, migrants or foster students. Heidi Dupuis, program manager for Oregon Department of Education's School Nutrition Program, said there are 340 such students — or 40.77 percent — identified at Astor and Lewis and Clark elementary schools, which count as a single group.

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EDUCATION IN ACTION

Tongue Point Job Corps students get real life lessons as interns

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Brandon Sadornas, a 21-year-old Job Corps plastering student, said he knew nothing about John Jacob Astor when he came to Astoria several months ago to join Job Corps. But on Wednesday, Sadornas found himself more than 60 feet in the air on the side of the Astoria Column, painting primer onto a frame around a portrait of Astor, the multi-millionaire namesake of Astoria.

Sadornas is one of many Job Corps students putting their skills learned at the federal job-training program to use in assignments around the community.

He is joined by Schuyler Lelake and Lucero Garcia, two other plastering students at Job Corps who are helping ready the Column's spiral, pictorial frieze telling the stories of the Corps of Discovery and Capt. Robert Gray's discovery of the Columbia River. The stories are etched using the sgraffito technique, an application of multiple layers of different-colored plasters.

"We're repairing the substrates so they can paint," Lelake said.

The students are applying coats of grob paint used to equalize textures and fill cracks, while painting

medallions of the column and other portions with primer before the detail artists come in.

They are part of a team of approximately 13 artists and preservationists working on the Column under Marie C. Laibinis of MCL Preservation LLC, which last restored the Column in 1995.

"They've been a great help," said Laibinis, adding she had graduate students helping in 1995. "And they're just excellent at what they do."

John Goodenberger, a local restoration expert and project lead for the Column, said Job Corps students had helped him on restorations at the Flavel House Museum and at the Grace Episcopal Church. Goodenberger said plastering instructor Brian Peterson met him on the scaffolding one day, told him he had three students and asked where they could be put to work.

"They put us on schedule," Goodenberger said.

Laibinis said the Column restoration was originally slated to start in May, but was held back until after Memorial Day. The Job Corps students have helped make up three weeks worth of prep work for the detail artists, she said.

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Edward Stratton/The Daily Astorian

Brandon Sadornas paints grob, used to equalize textures and fill in small cracks, on the side of the Astoria Column beneath a portrait of namesake John Jacob Astor.

Contamination threatens shipyard's future

Astoria Marine Construction Co. facing expensive cleanup options

By MCKINLEY SMITH
The Daily Astorian

Managing chemical contamination at the Astoria Marine Construction Co. has complicated the shipyard's future.

AMCCO, located on the Lewis and Clark River, is in the process of developing a feasibility study to address contamination and meet the requirements of the state Department of Environmental Quality.

The study, conducted by AMCCO's contractor GSI Water Solutions Inc., does not include an option that would allow the shipyard to remain open either during or after the cleanup of the site.

"Because of the contamination cleanup and the work that needs to be done near AMCCO, there's no economically feasible way for AMCCO to continue its current business operations," said Carson Bowler, AMCCO's lawyer. "It's too expensive to replace the equipment AMCCO would need to use to continue its business."

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Edward Stratton/The Daily Astorian

Representatives from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, its governing body the Environmental Quality Commission and Gov. Kate Brown's office met in Astoria Wednesday to see the progress on the environmental cleanup of Astoria Marine Construction Co. The company's large, covered work space could have to be torn down to reach contaminated soils underneath.

