



THE LIFE OF A RIVER PILOT

FRIDAY EXTRA • 1C



GULLS, FISHERMEN REAP REWARDS

SPORTS • 7A

Big bang for short-session buck

Minimum wage, renewable energy, housing go forward

By HILLARY BORRUD
and PARIS ACHEN
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Oregon lawmakers sprinted to the finish of a short session marked by controversy and procedural delays Thursday.

The Legislature's short session, which supporters sold to voters in 2010 as a time to clean up laws and

budgets, produced more far-reaching policies on the economy and the environment than last year's long session.

During the 32-day session, Democrats claimed victory on two major policies they failed to push through last year: Hiking the minimum wage and limiting the use of coal power in the state.

Lawmakers also made some headway in addressing the

state's affordable housing crisis.

The victory came with tactical pushback from Republicans. In a move to slow the Democrats' agenda, Senate Republicans demanded that all bills be read in their entirety before consideration.

They refused to show up last week when state Senate President Peter Courtney, D-Salem, scheduled an evening floor session to move

bills. The walkout forced Courtney to cancel the session because the Senate lacked a quorum.

Senate Republican Leader Ted Ferrioli, R-John Day, said Senate Republicans "will not work late into the night to fast track an agenda pursued by the Democrat majority that features backroom deals between Democrats and special interests and numerous broken promises of collaboration and compromise."

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LNG RULING

WARRENTON — A hearings officer for the city of Warrenton has denied the land-use applications for Oregon LNG's proposed terminal on the Skipanon Peninsula and approved with conditions the separate applications for a pipeline that would serve the terminal.

Oregon LNG has the right to appeal the hearings officer's decision to the Warrenton City Commission.

Read this developing story at www.dailyastorian.com

Marquis divulges details of Smith evidence

Defense claims evidence should be suppressed in murder

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

Lawyers in the Jessica Smith case are at odds over how the incident was investigated.

Smith, 42, is the mother charged with drugging and drowning her toddler and attempting to kill her teenager in a Cannon Beach resort July 31, 2014.

Her defense lawyers filed a motion asking the court to suppress evidence collected the next day from a search of the Surfsand Resort room where the children were found, because they say such entry, searches and questioning were made without a warrant. In addition, the defense claims Smith was illegally interrogated by law enforcement on Aug. 3, 2014.

As a result, the defense lawyers David Falls and Lynne Morgan claim, the evidence is tainted and cannot be used at trial.

Clatsop County District Attorney Josh Marquis filed a written response this week saying a search warrant was applied and issued for the hotel room, and Smith was repeatedly advised of her rights.

Marquis said he plans to present multiple witnesses during three days of hearings beginning April 26 in Clatsop County Circuit Court to confirm the details of the case.

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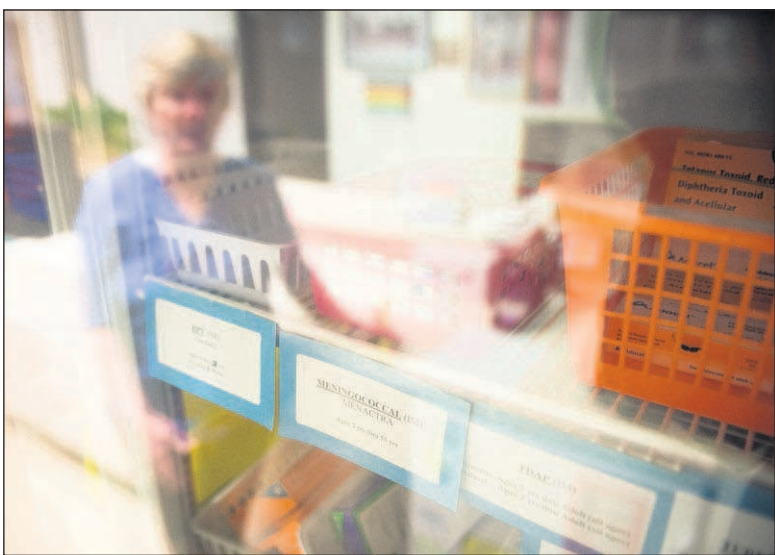


Jessica Smith

PUBLIC HEALTH SHIFTS GEARS



Brian Mahoney, director of public health, speaks during an interview at the Clatsop County Public Health Department office.



Sheri Salber, a public health nurse, shows where vaccines are kept in the Clatsop County Public Health Department office. Clatsop County Public Health offers immunizations for children, teens, and adults.

Chronic disease, wellness are department's new focus

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

Clatsop County only has a few public-health nurses to serve more than 37,000 people, a thin front line of defense against critical health concerns like communicable disease and unwanted pregnancy.

Three full-time positions are filled on a rotating basis by six nurses working one to five days a week. If a nurse calls in sick, Public Health Director Brian Mahoney said, the department has to play musical chairs.

"When there are absences, there is a domino effect on the services, or there are no services at all," Mahoney said.

An increase in required services, but less funding, has caused a strain on public health departments across Oregon. As an example, the state made HIV case management mandatory, but reduced

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Animals, plants thrive in marine reserves

Experts visit Cape Falcon to explore shifting ocean habitat

By LYRA FONTAINE
EO Media Group

CANNON BEACH — Where better to begin the conservation conversation than Cannon Beach? With designation of the new Cape Falcon Marine Reserve, the city and its neighbors are at the forefront of environmental protections.

"Locally, the marine reserve is a great opportunity to talk

about ocean conservation," said Chrissy Smith, Friends of Cape Falcon coordinator. "The marine reserve gives us a place to come together and take a big, vast, nebulous ocean and give it a boundary."

"A Tide Change: Inspiring Engagement in Oregon's Marine Reserves," held by the Oregon Marine Reserves Partnership, included speakers from Oregon State University and researchers throughout Oregon. The event ended with a field trip to the recently designated Cape Falcon Marine Reserve.

More than 80 people — including state agencies, wildlife and conservation groups, professors, volunteers, city

councilors, county commissioners, and other interested citizens — attended the two-day Oregon Marine Reserves Summit at the Cannon Beach Surfsand Resort last week.

Smith led a hike to view Devil's Cauldron from Oswald West State Park, which is adjacent to the Cape Falcon Marine Reserve. The hike offered dramatic views of steep cliffs, fierce waves, and spots for bird and whale watching. Visitors can kayak, walk on Short Sands Beach, and experience marine life, such as rockfish species, crab, invertebrates, anemone and kelp.

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Chrissy Smith led a hike at Oswald West State Park that overlooked the adjacent Cape Falcon Marine Reserve on the last day of the Oregon Marine Reserves Summit.

