

WARRENTON SPRING SPORT PREVIEWS

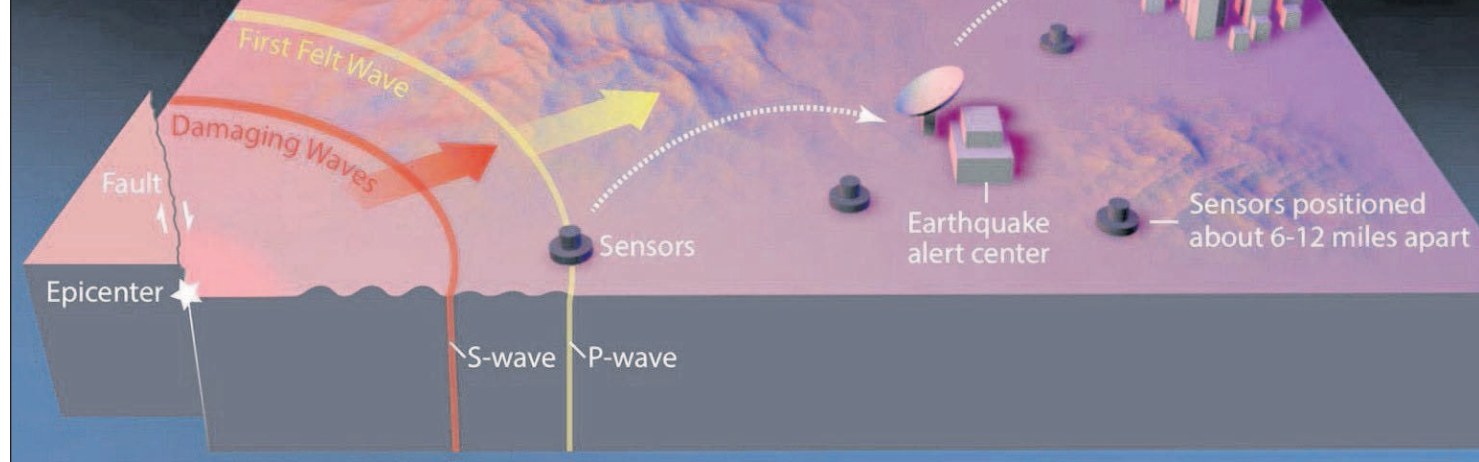
PAGE 4A



GULL GOLFERS REEL IN ANOTHER FISH INVITE

SPORTS • 9A

ShakeAlert



Erin Burkett/USGS and Jeff Goertzen/Orange County Register

Earthquake early warning systems like ShakeAlert work because the warning message can be transmitted almost instantaneously, whereas the shaking waves from the earthquake travel through the shallow layers of the Earth at fast speed.

Quake alert: Stirred, not shaken

How much warning can you have before the earthquake?

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

An earthquake early warning system is being developed for the West Coast to alert the public before the shaking starts.

The U.S. Geological Survey and four partner universities are seeking \$16.1 million in federal funding to launch and maintain the West Coast Earthquake Early Warning System. If funded, the system could be up and running within two years.



Sen. Jeff Merkley

Oregon lawmakers are showing their support for funding the system. U.S. Sens. Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley recently penned a letter urging Congress to prioritize the system. The senators explained how the system uses sensors to detect where an earthquake might hit. The \$16.1 million funding could buy hundreds of additional sensors.

"This is proven technology that will save lives and reduce the economic impact of an earthquake by far more than the cost to build this warning system," the senators wrote.

System prototypes

In 2012, the U.S. Geological Survey went live with a test system, ShakeAlert, that has been issuing warnings. The test system relies on data from about 650 sensors on land along the West Coast, with more than 300 sensors in the Pacific Northwest.

The system needs about 1,600 sensor stations to accurately detect an earthquake.

Test users include San Francisco's Bay Area Rapid Transit, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Boeing production facilities in Washington state and Intel production facilities in Oregon.

Doug Given, the earthquake early warning coordinator for the U.S. Geological Survey, said the test system has become more reliable, but the additional sensor stations are needed.

See ALERT, Page 12A



U.S. Geological Survey/Department of the Interior

Crews work to install the earthquake sensing equipment in California.



On your screen: ShakeAlert

- 1 Real-time tracking of seismic waves from quake's epicenter.
- 2 Real-time tracking of the fault rupture (updates intensity).
- 3 Your current location tracked by GPS.
- 4 Seconds remaining before seismic waves reach you.
- 5 Expected intensity of quake at your current location.
- 6 Estimated magnitude of quake.
- 7 Intensity scale.

U.S. Geological Survey/Department of the Interior

Spinning back to happier days

Pinwheels symbolize child-abuse prevention

The Daily Astorian

A garden of spinning blue pinwheels sprouted in front of the Clatsop County Courthouse Monday.

The county, along with Northwest Parenting and Clatsop Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), are supporting Prevent Child Abuse Oregon's Pinwheels for Prevention campaign. The campaign focuses on community activities and public policies that prioritize healthy child development to avoid abuse and neglect.

At Monday night's Astoria City Council meeting, Mayor Arline LaMear read a proclamation recognizing April as child-abuse prevention month.



Edward Stratton/The Daily Astorian

Clatsop County, Northwest Parenting and Clatsop Court Appointed Special Advocates are sponsoring pinwheel gardens at several locations around the county as part of a national campaign by Child Abuse Prevention America, and as part of National Child Abuse Prevention Month in April.

See PINWHEELS, Page 12A

CB fire captain resigns

Gardner's leave comes at time of recall

By LYRA FONTAINE
EO Media Group

CANNON BEACH — Fire Capt. Matt Gardner has resigned from the Cannon Beach Rural Fire Protection District.

Gardner, who was second in command at the fire department, said his decision was not influenced by the firing of former chief Mike Balzer and a recall election of fire board directors.



Matt Gardner

"It's been an honor and privilege to serve the community and I wish the Cannon Beach Rural Fire Protection District well," Gardner said in a statement. "In an effort to avoid speculation, confusion or misrepresentation, my decision to resign from the Cannon Beach Rural Fire Protection District is a personal decision and one that has nothing to do with the current controversy."

Gardner, who resigned in March, began work this week as plant operator for the Arch Cape Water and Sanitary District.

See GARDNER, Page 12A

Brownhill endorses McIntosh for judge

Presiding judge weighs in on rare opening in County Circuit Court

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

Clatsop County Circuit Court Judge Paula Brownhill has endorsed lawyer Dawn McIntosh for a rare vacancy on the court.

McIntosh is one of three candidates vying to replace Judge Philip Nelson, who is retiring this year after 24 years on the bench. Deputy District Attorney David Goldthorpe and Municipal Court judge Ronald Woltjer are also campaigning in the May election.



Paula Brownhill

The winner will join Brownhill and Cindee Matyas as the county's three circuit court judges.

Brownhill's endorsement puts the court's presiding judge on a different path than District Attorney Josh Marquis, who has backed Goldthorpe.



Dawn McIntosh

Brownhill noted McIntosh's broad legal experience in her endorsement. McIntosh, a former prosecutor who works for the Clatsop and Long in Gearhart, handles domestic relations, juvenile and criminal cases in Clatsop and Tillamook courts.

See JUDGE, Page 12A

