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A CEMETERY MORNING

FRIDAY EXTRA • 1C & 3C

Corporate sales tax measure has big lead

By JIM REDDEN
Capital Bureau

Measure 97, the tax on corporate sales on the general election ballot, is strongly supported by voters, according to a new poll by DHM Research.

The poll released Thursday found the measure is leading by 60 percent to 30 percent.



“Support for Measure 97 is not only notable for its intensity, but because Oregonians across the state support it. Additionally, a majority of voters of all

ages, educational levels, and incomes support the measure. The only demographic group that does not support the measure is Republicans, with 57 percent opposed. However, even 1 in 4 Republicans say they are certain to vote for Measure 97 (24 percent),” the non-partisan Portland-based firm said in a release announcing the poll results.

The measure would impose a 2.5

percent tax on the Oregon sales of “C” corporations exceeding \$25 million. The tax would be on gross sales, not profits.

It is estimated to raise a little over \$3 billion a year for schools and social programs, although the Oregon Legislature can spend the money as it pleases.

Although Oregon voters have repeatedly rejected sale taxes in the

past, the firm says the support reflects voter opinions that corporations are not paying their fair share of taxes.

“Six in 10 Oregonians think large businesses pay too little in state taxes (59 percent) — nearly the same percentage as those in support of the measure itself,” says the release.

See MEASURE 97, Page 10A

Unitarian Universalists head to the PAC

First Congregational Church building in need of money, repairs

By ERICK BENGEL
The Daily Astorian

Astoria’s Pacific Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, a progressive and diverse spiritual group, is leaving the First Congregational Church for Clatsop Community College’s Performing Arts Center.

For many years, the fellowship has held services in the little green chapel on the South Slope’s Alameda Avenue. But because of growing membership and concerns about the building’s condition, the group voted this summer to change venues.

In addition, the fellowship is joining Partners of the PAC, a coalition of organizations supporting the arts center.

This Sunday — the fellowship’s last Sunday in their longtime location — the Rev. Kit Ketcham will lead a farewell service. Attendees will share memories of services held in the beloved building, discuss their feelings about the transition and mark the passing of an era.

See CHURCH, Page 10A



Photos by Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

ABOVE: The Rev. Kit Ketcham, of the Pacific Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, sits in the empty pews of the First Congregational Church for a portrait on Thursday in Astoria. The Pacific Unitarian Universalist Fellowship will move their services from the First Congregational Church location to Clatsop Community College Performing Arts Center after their Sunday service. **BELOW:** A tarp is draped pending a window repair Thursday at the First Congregational Church located at 820 Alameda Ave. The Pacific Unitarian Universalist Fellowship will move their services from the First Congregational Church to Performing Arts Center after their service on Sunday.



Irish pub hits snag

Commission proposes denying liquor license

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

The Oregon Liquor Control Commission has sent notice to the owner of a new Irish pub in Uniontown that the agency has proposed denying a liquor license.

Workmans Irish Pub, owned by Erica Miltenberger, has a location in Tillamook and held a short-lived soft opening at a new location on Marine Drive in June.

The state sent Miltenberger the notice of proposed license refusal last week. The notice said Miltenberger failed to list her prior last name of Gerlach on individual history forms and did not disclose she was in a drug or alcohol diversion program for a 2009 alcohol-related offense.

Miltenberger insisted that the information about her and her business was inaccurate. She declined to say whether she would exercise her right to a hearing to dispute the proposed license refusal.

Christie Scott, a spokeswoman for the state’s alcohol program, said Miltenberger has until Oct. 31 to request a hearing with the Office of Administrative Hearings. An administrative law judge listens to arguments by the state and the applicant. Liquor control commissioners ratify or overturn the judge’s decision. Scott said that in her nine years with the agency, commissioners have overturned a proposed denial of a liquor license only three times.

Police concerns

The Astoria Police Department in June had recommended the City Council vote against approving Miltenberger’s liquor

See PUB, Page 10A



Edward Stratton/The Daily Astorian

The former Cafe Uniontown, once Irish restaurant Fiddler’s Green, has undergone a transition to the second location of Workmans Irish Pub. The state has proposed denying a liquor license for the pub.

After 9/11: How the unity we forged broke apart

By JENNIFER PELTZ
Associated Press

NEW YORK — For a time, it felt like the attack that shattered America had also brought it together.

After Sept. 11, signs of newfound unity seemed to well up everywhere, from the homes where American flags appeared virtually overnight to the Capitol steps where lawmakers pushed aside party lines to sing “God Bless America” together.

That cohesion feels vanishingly distant as the 15th anniversary of the attacks arrives Sunday. Gallup’s 15-year-old poll of Americans’ national

pride hit its lowest-ever point this year. In a country that now seems carved up by door-slaming disputes over race, immigration, national security, policing and politics, people impelled by the spirit of common purpose after Sept. 11 rue how much it has slipped away.

Jon Hile figured he could help the ground zero cleanup because he worked in industrial air pollution control. So he traveled from Louisville, Kentucky, to volunteer, and it is not exaggerating to say the experience changed his life. He came home and became a firefighter.

Hile, who now runs a risk management firm, remembers

it as a time of communal kindness, when “everybody understood how quickly things could change ... and how quickly you could feel vulnerable.”

A decade and a half later, he sees a nation where economic stress has pushed many people to look out for themselves. Where people stick to their comfort zones.

“I wish that we truly remembered,” he says, “like we said we’d never forget.”

Terrorism worries

Terrorism barely registered among Americans’ top worries in early September 2001, but



AP Photo/Dylan Lovan

Jon Hile stands in the McMahan Fire Department in Louisville, Ky., in August. For the September 2001 terror attacks, Hile traveled from Louisville to volunteer at ground zero.

See 9/11, Page 9A

