



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

Clatsop County Emergency Management Coordinator Bijan Fayyaz speaks to students during his presentation about terrorism on Friday at Astoria High School. The presentation is part of the Community Emergency Response Team class curriculum.

A lesson in disaster

Emergency preparation at area high schools

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Bijan Fayyaz, Clatsop County's emergency management coordinator, remembers as a child going three weeks without power in his hometown of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, during Hurricane Frances in 2004. For Hurricane Katrina in 2005, it was a week-and-a-half. His father, a civil engineer with the city, was tasked with coordinating emergency efforts, sometimes providing him an inside view of how response works.

The experiences, he said, gave him an understanding of what it's like to live through emergencies, with resources often being pulled from less populated areas like Fort Lauderdale and focused on larger nearby cities like Miami. It's a situation he said Clatsop County could face, being in close proximity to Portland.

In an expansion of what used to be an after-school club, Fayyaz is taking all high school seniors in Astoria, juniors in Seaside and sophomores in Warrenton through a nine-week course in disaster response.

By the end of the year, the course will result in more than 250 local high schoolers certified to join a Community Emergency Response Team. And Fayyaz said the county plans to make the disaster training a permanent part of local curriculum.

Lifesaving courses

An economics major at Florida State University, Fayyaz completed the school's Emergency Management Homeland Security program, and eventually attended the Emergency Management Institute, learning to train others in emergency response.

He visits each of his high school classes once a week, taking over from the teacher for



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

Jared Lucore is lifted by classmates as they demonstrate a blanket carry during one of their Community Emergency Response Team classes.

the day. Over nine weeks, he takes students through the structure of response teams, disaster psychology, search and rescue, first aid, triage, firefighting and other disaster response skills. At the end of the course, students are tested in a disaster simulation, their grades dependent on how efficiently they assess a situation and treat victims.

Earlier this month, Fayyaz was teaching students in Chad Clouse's junior health class at Seaside High School how to efficiently search a disaster-stricken area and extract survivors.

"It's prioritizing how to save the most lives, the greatest number of people, in the shortest amount of time," he said.

After a little cajoling, Fayyaz convinced juniors David Schwino, Megan Brown and Cole Herrington to come up in front of class

and demonstrate how to carry each other.

"I wouldn't imagine picking up people I don't know," Brown said of the experience, after hauling her classmate Herrington by the feet.

But Brown, like her classmates, said she understands the need to have a corps of youthful volunteers with such skills, ready at all times in case disaster strikes.

"It's nice to have some responsibility," Schwino said, adding Fayyaz's classes have rekindled a childhood interest of being a first responder.

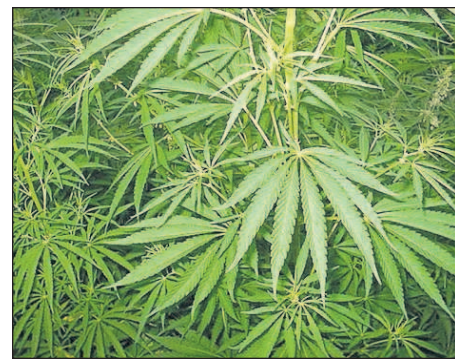
Clouse said Fayyaz's course was an easy fit, covering many of the same topics he did, such as first aid, while going more in-depth on

See LESSON, Page 4A

'It's prioritizing how to save the most lives, the greatest number of people, in the shortest amount of time.'

Bijan Fayyaz

Clatsop County emergency management coordinator



File Photo

The Jewell School Board has opposed a marijuana facility near Jewell School.

Pot facility gets cold shoulder in Jewell

Building would be near Jewell School

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

JEWELL — The Jewell School Board came face-to-face for the first time Monday with the owner of a proposed marijuana processing facility they have opposed.

Marc Plew, from Happy Valley, purchased a small lot at the corner of Oregon highways 103 and 202, slightly more than 1,000 feet north of Jewell School. Shortly after, he applied for a permit to build a marijuana processing facility, dispensary and residence.

During a presentation Monday about the school district's appeal process, Jewell Superintendent Alice Hunsaker said the district found out about the proposed facility from one of four property owners within 250 of the site who were notified about Plew's application. Outside the radius, the school district was not notified.

"As the leader of the school district, I had significant concerns," she said.

See JEWELL, Page 4A



Ted Shorack/The Daily Astorian

Douglas fir logs harvested near Jewell are brought up to a landing in the Clatsop State Forest. The Jewell School District will stay in a \$1.4 billion lawsuit against the state over timber harvests.

Jewell stays in timber suit

School board decides to take no action

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

JEWELL — The Jewell School District, one of two timber-funded school districts in the state, will stay in a \$1.4 billion lawsuit over timber harvests.

Without explanation, the school board decided on Monday to take no action regarding the Linn County lawsuit, by default staying involved.

Asked after the meeting about the inaction, Brian Meier, the school board chairman, said the board avoids taking political stances.

The breach of contract lawsuit claims the state has failed to maximize timber revenue on forestland deeded by 15 counties and about 130 taxing districts statewide.

Clatsop County, which contains the largest share of forestland targeted in the lawsuit, voted to opt out, but many individual taxing districts in the county have to make their own decisions.

The Port of Astoria Commission voted last week to stay in the lawsuit. The Clatsop Community College Board decides tonight. Superintendent Sheila Roley said the Seaside School District plans to take no action before the Jan. 25 deadline, which means the district will remain a plaintiff.

Trump Bump

Environmental groups cash in on uncertainty over president

By JOHN O'CONNELL
EO Media Group

The money began rolling in to the environmental groups immediately after Donald Trump won the presidential election last November.

Though they wouldn't divulge specific amounts, environmental activists say building their war chests has

MORE INSIDE

'Right to farm' a target in Oregon on Page 3A

Trump advances Keystone, Dakota pipelines on Page 3A

never been so easy, as a growing support base looks to them to take on Trump and his Cabinet picks they say are linked to "extractive" industries.

Pictures of oil pipelines and industrial smokestacks spewing dark clouds accompany social media warnings alleging that the new Republican president and

See BUMP, Page 4A



Charles Krupa/Associated Press

Environmental groups say they've experienced a sharp increase in contributions since Donald Trump was elected president.

