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ONE DOLLAR

College weighs PAC options

Space, housing ideas on table

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Clatsop Community College President Christopher Breitmeyer has raised the possibility of a public-private partnership to develop housing at the site of the Performing Arts Center while preserving the building's original purpose.

The college board has been deciding what to do with the center, a former church the school acquired in the 1970s for a now nonexistent performing arts program. The center is no longer part of the college's academic offerings, but is a popular rehearsal and performance space. The operation of the building is paid for by Partners for the PAC, a coalition of user groups.

The building, which dates to the 1930s, faces significant deferred

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Sen. Johnson admonishes progressives on crime bills

Democrat spoke to district attorneys

By JACK HEFFERNAN
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — In a rallying speech to district attorneys from across Oregon, state Sen. Betsy Johnson on Wednesday chastised House Majority Leader Jennifer Williamson and other progressives for their support of recently passed criminal justice bills.

One bill — part of a larger effort to limit racial profiling by police and the justice system — will classify first-time, low-level possession of illegal drugs such as heroin and methamphetamine as misdemeanors. Another — intended to help curb an upward trend of prison use among women — will lower presumptive prison sentences for theft and identity theft by nearly a third.



Betsy Johnson

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THE WRECK OF THE WESTERN SKIES

Not shipshape



Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

U.S. Coast Guard personnel attend to the wreck of the Western Skies fishing vessel which sank at its mooring slip at the Warrenton Marina early Sunday. The boat was leaking fuel and pollution cleanup measures were taken by the Coast Guard.

Cleaning up after abandoned vessels sink is complicated

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — By Monday afternoon, the U.S. Coast Guard had mostly finished overseeing the cleanup of fuel from the fishing vessel Western Skies, which still lay sunk on its side in a slip at the Warrenton Marina. More than 1,000 gallons of oily water mixture was removed from the vessel by Global Diving and Salvage, a contractor hired by the Coast Guard using \$40,000 from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund.

The removal of the Western Skies, however, will likely fall to the city of Warrenton, with the owner unable to be located and limited state funds for removing commercial vessels.

Responding to spills

Chief Petty Officer Bradley Bennett and Lt. Berit Boyle are two of several regional pollution responders with the Coast Guard's



The wreck of the Western Skies fishing vessel, which sank at its mooring at the Warrenton Marina early Sunday and was leaking fuel, remains on its side with pollution cleanup measures surrounding it on Monday. The wreck was being attended to by U.S. Coast Guard personnel.

Incident Management Division based at Air Station Astoria. After receiving a call early Sunday morning about the sunken boat, the two started gathering information before heading to the scene.

Boyle said neither the Coast Guard nor the marina could reach the owner, a situation that plays out a few times a year.

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'HYPOTHETICALLY, IF WARRENTON WANTED SOME MONEY, WE COULD LOOK AT HAVING THEM DO THE WORK, AND THEN REIMBURSING SOME OF THE EXPENSES.'

Rachel Graham | Policy and environmental section manager for the Oregon State Marine Board

New dock gussies up Warrenton Marina



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Major work was completed last week on a new dock at the Warrenton Marina as part of a \$2.1 million project funded by the city's Urban Renewal Agency. As of Wednesday, commercial fishing vessels were already using the new facility.

City completes \$2.1 million project

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — A few balloons still bob on their strings along the new dock. "Welcome back!" they proclaim in red letters outlined in silver against a backdrop of exploding fireworks.

Major work on a replacement dock and associated gangways in the Warrenton Marina wrapped up last week and the first commercial fishing vessel came back to tie up there Friday. The project, budgeted at \$2.1 million and funded by the city's Urban Renewal Agency dol-

lars, was a long time coming, said Harbormaster Jane Sweet.

"The marina's shaping up to be a really nice place," said Warrenton Mayor Henry Balensifer. "The work is never done, but this is a significant investment we've made."

The marina has more than 350 slips divided between commercial and recreational vessels. In the middle of improvement work last December, Sweet noted the marina's aging infrastructure, saying the fishermen deserved a new dock.

"They work hard," she said at the time.

"It's a long time coming," agreed Mark Kujala, owner of Skipanon Brand

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