

## BOOK ¢ENTS

Library levy increase will be on the ballot in November



Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian  
Tyler Wirt did not wait for all the books to be unpacked at the new home of the Warrenton Community Library in May before taking advantage of the children's reading section.

## Deviney gets 30 years in rape case

Abducted the girl in California in 2015

By JACK HEFFERNAN  
The Daily Astorian

A Washington state man was sentenced today to more than 30 years in prison for raping a California girl in 2015 and leaving her in a car in Astoria.

Russell Wayne Deviney, 50, of Everett, Washington, pleaded guilty last week to first-degree rape, first-degree unlawful sexual penetration, first-degree sodomy and using a child in a display of sexually explicit conduct. He originally was also charged with first-degree kidnapping, three counts of first-degree sexual abuse and second counts of the four charges for which he pleaded guilty before eventually reaching a deal with the Clatsop County District Attorney's Office.



Russell Wayne Deviney

Authorities say Deviney abducted the 15-year-old girl in Sanger, California, in May 2015 after posing as an 18-year-old man on Instagram. After fighting with her mother one

See DEVINEY, Page 7A

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ  
The Daily Astorian

**WARRENTON** — For the first time in nearly 15 years, the Warrenton City Commission will go to the voters seeking an increase to the library's operational levy.

If voters approve the increase in the November election, the five-year levy would jump from 9 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value to 33 cents. This would raise an estimated \$933,773 over the next five years. The money would go toward expanding the Warrenton Community Library's limited hours, add staff time, pay for an automated check-out system, e-books and other books and materials as well as cover routine bills such as rent, utilities, maintenance and telephones. The upgrades will help modernize a library where volunteers and staff still hand-stamp due dates in the backs of books.

The levy increased once before, from 6 cents to today's 9 cents.

City commissioners examined four different scenarios at a meeting Tuesday night. These were labeled bronze, silver, gold and platinum. Each outlined different tax increases — from as low as 20 cents to as high as 41 cents — and detailed what the library could accomplish with the different sums each would likely raise. City staff and the library board recommended the gold scenario, which the commission unanimously approved.

**'Library needs to grow'**

The library has been at its new

See LIBRARY, Page 7A



The shelves at the new home of the Warrenton Community Library are full and patrons are busy taking advantage of all the new space.



Warrenton Community Library volunteer Schatzie Perkins worked on getting shelves ready in May to handle books at the new facility in downtown Warrenton.

## Warrenton, water district to discuss dam

Potential thaw in the ongoing dispute

By DERRICK DePLEDGE  
The Daily Astorian

**WARRENTON** — The Warrenton City Commission will meet with the Skipanon Water Control District on the Eighth Street Dam, hoping to find consensus for new studies into whether the aging structure is useful for flood control.

The city said the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the federal Natural Resources Conservation Service favor more research on the dam on the Skipanon River. The city has temporarily put aside legal questions about ownership and liability, and will instead concentrate on whether tide gates can be restored to test whether the dam can reduce flooding for property owners.

"We are concerned about the anecdotes and the stories and the reports that we've received from homeowners and property owners across the city, and we're pursuing further actions to open a dialogue," Mayor Henry Balensifer said Tuesday night after the City Commission met privately in executive session.

See DAM, Page 7A

## Seaside's latest innovation goes topsy-turvy

Viewing the world from upside down

By R.J. MARX  
The Daily Astorian

**SEASIDE** — If the world seems to be a little upside down, you're not alone.

Keith Baker first imagined a topsy-turvy outlook as a kid watching TV shows as a kid watching TV shows upside down while lying on the living-room couch. During the long months as a commercial fisherman in Alaska, he would let his imagination run as he

gazed over the horizon.

Back in Seaside, Baker has turned his longtime vision into a reality at the Inverted Experience, appropriately located at the former location of the Ferris wheel on Broadway.

Today, the room is decorated like a Fred Astaire-Ginger Rogers Hollywood stage set, with fixtures on the ceiling and upside down on the walls. Barstools are upside down at the "inverted saloon" and on a side wall, a 1950s kitchen scene hangs from above.

Reactions are "unbelievable," Baker said. "It's steamrolling."

He developed the concept

about 10 years ago, during those long moments on a fishing boat in the Bering Sea. "When you are isolated on a boat you have a lot of time to think," Baker said. "You don't have a lot of influences, TV or internet."

The Inverted Experience is the product of Baker's imagination and his love for Seaside.

A \$6 admission fee entry; a family pass is \$20 for four. Visitors pass their phones to an attendant, who snaps and rotates the shots so that people appear to be hanging, floating, running or scrambling upside down.



R.J. Marx/The Daily Astorian

Owner Keith Baker at the Inverted Saloon.

See SEASIDE, Page 7A

