

# THE DAILY ASTORIAN

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ONE DOLLAR

## GREAT COLUMBIA CROSSING



# OVER THE BRIDGE

Hundreds of runners gathered Sunday morning for the Great Columbia Crossing. The 10K run started at Dismal Nitch in Washington state and crossed the Astoria Bridge before finishing on Basin Street in Uniontown. The popular run was canceled last year for the first time because of stormy weather, but the weather cooperated on Sunday. See more photos at DailyAstorian.com

Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

## Port director gets backing after verdict

Commission president stands by Knight after \$4 million loss in suit

By EDWARD STRATTON  
The Daily Astorian



Frank Spence

Port of Astoria Commission President Frank Spence gave the Port's executive director a vote of confidence a day after the agency was hit with a \$4 million loss in a breach of contract lawsuit over the Astoria Riverwalk Inn.

"I support Jim Knight wholeheartedly," Spence said Friday. "I have no doubts whatsoever on his capability."

See PORT, Page 7A

## BEWITCHED



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Dozens of people gathered at the Cannon Beach Community Hall on Saturday dressed up for the annual Halloween event.

### After 40 years, a Cannon Beach woman gives away her witch collection

By BRENNA VISSER  
The Daily Astorian

CANNON BEACH — Witches from all over the world have joined Helen Feldmeier's coven.

Lucia, named after St. Lucia Day, flew in from Sweden. Snuffy the candle snuffer was brought in a box from a friend. Amelia Bedelia has been with her for 17 years, but doesn't get around the way she used to since her batteries died and her wheels locked up.

The 365 witches that hid in every nook and cranny of the Cannon Beach Community Hall Saturday represent 40 years of family, friends and memories. Each one of the eerie creatures has a nametag and a story, and for more than 20 years, Feldmeier would bring them out for the annual Halloween party she hosts.

But this year, Feldmeier decided it was time for the coven to disband.

"It's gotten overwhelming. These

were all in my attic at my little house on Jackson Street," she said. "I tried to find someone who would take all 300 or so, but that turned out to be easier said than done. So I'm giving them away."

Feldmeier always has had a love for Halloween. Early in her life she remembers celebrating the holiday with her family in Iowa, throwing corn on people's porches or dressing up in parades. Her family's extravagant and festive outdoor decor was even featured in the local paper in Davis, Calif.

She instilled her love for Halloween into her own family, who she said have all inherited "the witching gene." In the early days, she would pick up the occasional witch here and there. One Sunday she invited friends to a spooky breakfast with witches on display, and ever since her "witch parties" have mushroomed into large neighborhood affairs.

See BEWITCHED, Page 7A

## Texas couple tries hotel life in Arch Cape

New owners seek a Northwest feel for the historic inn

By BRENNA VISSER  
The Daily Astorian

ARCH CAPE — Before buying the Inn at Arch Cape, Heather Newman and Chris Anderson knew the Oregon Coast just as another faraway place on a map.

A year ago, the couple were living in Dallas, Texas, both working in highly intense marketing jobs.

"We were working 60-hour work weeks. We would come home from work and sit on our laptops," Newman said. "We needed a change."

That's when Anderson and Newman decided to take a chance and pursue a dream venture: owning and operating an inn.

They didn't know much, other than they wanted a place near water. When the two saw the former owners, Tracy and Henry Hooper of Gearhart, selling the Inn at Arch Cape earlier this year, they immediately booked a flight.

See COUPLE, Page 5A



Brenna Visser/The Daily Astorian

Heather Newman and Chris Anderson became the new owners of the Inn at Arch Cape in May.



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