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ONE DOLLAR



Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

A Coast Guard crew monitors the local crab fleet.

CRAB CONTROL

C-27 PLANE PROVIDES AERIAL PERSPECTIVE



Matthew Young, 3rd Class marine enforcement specialist, writes down information about fishing vessels observed during a flight.



A crab boat churns through the waters off the Oregon Coast.



Chris Porter, 1st Class aviation maintenance technician with the Coast Guard, keeps a close eye on the crab fleet from a C-27 aircraft.

By JACK HEFFERNAN
The Daily Astorian

As crabbers crowd the mouth of the Columbia River and jockey for their catch, the Coast Guard soars above, ensuring some order to the fray.

On some days during crab season, a four-member Coast Guard crew flies a C-27 plane north from Air Station Sacramento to help patrol crab boats off the Oregon and Washington state coasts. The plane flew along the coast Thursday

for more than two hours, as far south as Oceanside and up north to Grays Harbor, a span of over 100 miles.

The crew and a local marine enforcement specialist from Air Station Astoria

spotted roughly 100 vessels, about 80 of which were concentrated within 40 miles of the mouth of the river.

“With such a large fleet in a small area, there’s not a lot of margin for error there,”

3rd Class Maritime Enforcement Specialist Matthew Young said.

Besides aiding an occasional search-and-rescue operation, the crew’s main objective is to keep track of crab boats and provide an aerial perspective — anywhere from 500 feet to 1,500 feet above the water — of crabbing. Their observations are relayed to Coast Guard vessels and state regulators, who then may be better able to focus patrols.

See **CRAB CONTROL**, Page 7A

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Matthew Young | 3rd Class Maritime Enforcement Specialist

Drunken-driving arrests surge in Warrenton

Up from a curious low in 2014

By DERRICK DePLEDGE
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Police Chief Mathew Workman realized the number was unacceptable.

His officers made only six arrests for driving under the influence of intoxicants in 2014, raising questions about whether police were giving drunken drivers a free pass.

Clatsop County averages 250 to 300 DUII prosecutions a year, so Warrenton stood out.

“There are numerous factors that play into the low numbers, but, you

know, the simplest is we did not do a good job that year of enforcing DUIIs,” Workman said.

After a commitment by the police chief to improve, drunken and drugged driving arrests in Warrenton climbed to 55 last year.

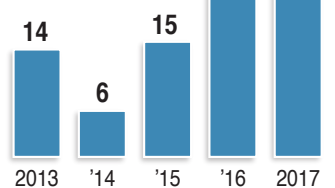
Warrenton is a regional shopping hub, but many bars and restaurants cater to locals. Like the rest of the county, the city has a hard-drinking culture rooted in fishing and logging. But the spike in arrests was not from a spree of drunken driving.

Workman adjusted patrol schedules to ensure two officers are on duty during evening hours when drunken driving peaks, even if it means

Catching up

Warrenton police have made patrols for drunken or drugged driving a priority after years when there were surprisingly few arrests.

Source: Warrenton Police Department



Alan Kenaga/EO Media Group

See **DUIIS**, Page 7A

Oregon’s top prosecutor holds marijuana summit

By GILLIAN FLACCUS
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Oregon’s top federal prosecutor will hold a marijuana summit today to hear how the state, law enforcement, tribal and industry leaders will plan up on the black market in other states and is fueling crime.

U.S. Attorney Billy Williams laid out his plans for the unprecedented event in a recent newspaper column, saying Oregon has a “massive marijuana overproduction problem” that is attracting cartels and criminal

See **POT SUMMIT**, Page 7A

