

GRAND LAND PARADE A REGATTA TRADITION



The Astoria Regatta festivities included a parade through downtown.

Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

A maritime-style march through downtown

By HANNAH SIEVERT
The Daily Astorian

Floats, clowns, dancers, a marching band and the Astoria Regatta princesses paraded through downtown on Saturday for the Regatta's annual Grand Land Parade.

The parade has been a feature of the Regatta since the event began in 1894. It's the oldest and biggest parade west of the Rockies, according to the Regatta's organizers.

Some in the community have been attending the parade for years. Bill Landwehr and Jim Robinson, members of the Astoria Clowns, estimate they have been performing in the parade as clowns for around 15 years.

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Hannah Sievert/The Daily Astorian

The 2018 Astoria Regatta princesses and queen wave to the crowd during the parade.

Inmates get help on mental health

Treatment center at state prison

By PARIS ACHEN
Capital Bureau

SALEM — The Oregon Department of Corrections has opened a new behavioral health treatment center at Oregon State Penitentiary to help improve conditions for inmates with severe mental illness.

Two years ago, Colette Peters, the department's director, signed a memorandum of understanding with Disability Rights Oregon to increase out-of-cell time for these inmates and make other improvements. Peters agreed to give inmates at least 20 hours per week, or less than three hours per day, outside their cells by 2020.

"I believe this building and our great staff work is going to get us there in no time," Peters said during a ribbon-cutting at the treatment center on Friday.

In July and early August, the agency provided about 12.6 hours per week, or about 1.8 hours a day, Peters said. Inmates remain in windowless cells measured 6 feet by 11 feet with no companionship for the rest of the day. Disability Rights Oregon has alleged those conditions are on par with solitary confinement.

Twenty hours a week is the minimum needed to protect inmates with mental health conditions from cruel and unusual punishment as defined by the Eighth Amendment, according to Disability Rights Oregon.

Joel Greenberg, attorney at Disability Rights Oregon, said he is "skeptically optimistic" that the agency will meet its obligation.

"We hope this building — which they have placed a lot of faith in and a lot of hope in — will turn around the numbers," Greenberg said.

State lawmakers appropriated \$5.2 million in February 2016 to build, furnish and staff the treatment center for some 45 inmates who have serious mental illness and have demonstrated violent or disruptive behavior.

The metal mesh doors in the inmates' living quarters and the configuration of the prison prevent exposure to natural light and make it difficult for inmates to communicate with anyone outside.

"Talking to someone through punched-out metal holes doesn't allow you to adequately see or hear anything," Greenberg said. "In order to talk to someone inside a cell, you would have to bend down and talk through the food slot and hopefully the resident of the cell would do the same thing. Even though the residents are very disabled and ill, there is a lot of noise, yelling and screaming that made it difficult to have not only a private conversation but any conversation."

Now, inmates can meet privately with mental health professionals in one of 13 offices at the treatment center. The 6,830-square-foot center also has four classrooms for group therapy

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'Pottery for a purpose' Gearhart resident opens art gallery for charity

By BRENN A VISSER
The Daily Astorian

GEARHART — Jenn Whyman likes to think of the artwork she sells as "pottery with a purpose."

In late July, she opened Coast Gallery and Numismatics, a small gallery located off U.S. Highway 101 in Gearhart that features a mix between sculptures, paintings and an extensive stock of coins paired with appraisal services.

On the surface, it resembles many other North Coast galleries, with pieces featuring coastal landmarks like Haystack Rock and Hug Point. But Whyman's inspiration to open the gal-

lery drew from a slightly different well.

Instead of selling for a profit, she envisioned a model where proceeds from each sale — after bills were paid and artists given their cut — would go to support different charities.

To do so, she brought together the passions of her husband, Dan Whyman, who is an avid coin collector and appraiser, and her brother-in-law, Jeff Whyman, a sculptor and painter whose North Coast roots extend back to his days operating an art gallery in Cannon Beach in the 1990s.

"I wanted to support both of their interests, as well as open a gallery that

EVERYDAY
people



Brenna Visser/The Daily Astorian

Dan and Jenn Whyman opened Coast Gallery and Numismatics in Gearhart in July.

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