

The science of making learning fun

WGS teacher helps students become innovators

BY CINDY YINGST
The Columbia Press

There's a real science to engaging students.

The recipe calls for one part encouragement, one part relationship, one part motivation and a good bit of hands-on work.

"People like to call it that aha moment, when that lightbulb goes off," junior high science teacher Dionne Marshall said when asked what she loves about teaching. "I love building relationships with students and getting to know them personally."

Marshall, 37, has been teaching science at Warrenton Grade School for 10 years. Last month, she was named Region One Outstanding Teacher of the Year by the Oregon Science Teachers Association.

Region One includes Multnomah, Clackamas, Columbia and Clatsop counties.

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Right: Grace Um uses the catapult she built to send a marshmallow flying down the hall.

Below right: Teacher Dionne Marshall prepares her students Monday for a lab on building catapults.

Below: Levi Qualin and Amanda Nairn put the finishing touches on their catapult.

Cindy Yingst



Pac. Seafood's workers' dorm gets approval

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Pacific Seafood received a green light from Planning Commissioners to convert an old office building into dorms for seasonal workers.

The conditional-use permit requires the company to meet more than 30 city-imposed standards, including limits on who lives there, upgrades to the driveway, exterior landscaping and more.

"I think the applicant is trying to be transparent. I think the applicant is trying to do something worthwhile," Planning Commission Chairman Paul Mitchell said before the vote. "Do I think it's in the best location?" Mitchell shrugged and continued, "I have concerns about the living conditions ... but that's not really up to us. I personally would like to see it not have 100 people living there."

Pacific Seafood has struggled to find affordable housing for its seasonal seafood plant workers, sometimes busing them long distances and sometimes paying for expensive hotel rooms.

The company's proposal is to take an unused half of a building used for metal fabrication that it already owns at 1815 N.W. Warrenton Drive and convert the former offices into dormitory-style housing for 70 employees the first year and up to 90 in subsequent years.

Several nearby residents expressed concerns with the project.

"There should have been higher standards," Anne Marie Gramson



Mitchell

Many options for Thanksgiving day meals and other events

The Columbia Press

There's a new group in charge of Warrenton's community Thanksgiving dinner this year.

The local VFW has taken over the task, but the event is still free and open to everyone.

Community Day of Thanks is from noon to 3 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 28, at Warrenton Community Center, 170 S.W. Third St.

The dinner is sponsored by Fort Stevens VFW and Auxiliary 10580.

For the past eight years, the families of Diane Burkhart, Lisa Lamping

and Kelly Clark have spearheaded the Thankful Hearts Thanksgiving dinner with the help of dozens of volunteers. They turned the reigns over to the VFW, who learned the ropes from them last year, along with all remaining donated funds.

If you can't attend the meal in person, the group will deliver a meal to your door. To sign up for a home meal, call Debbie Little at 503-739-0661 before noon on Wednesday, Nov. 27.

If you'd prefer to donate your time or money for the event, contact Little

at the above phone number or email her at dlittle1822@gmail.com. Donations can be mailed to Thankful Hearts, 91717 Sunnyside Road, Warrenton 97146.

OTHER THANKSGIVING EVENTS

• Gobbler Gallop, a 5-kilometer run, will begin at 8 a.m. Thanksgiving, Nov. 28, at the Columbia River Maritime Museum, 1792 Marine Drive.

Registration is \$10 per person or a donation of canned foods. The run is along the Astoria Riverwalk.

Registration will be taken the morning. See 'Thanksgiving' on Page 8

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