

College's maritime training program wins national honors

Clatsop Community College's Maritime Science Program was named a Center of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training and Education.

It is one of 27 training institutions in 16 states to receive the honor from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration.

The designation recognizes "the tremendous value that your institution provides to our nation by developing and preparing students for demanding careers in our vitally important maritime indus-

try," DOT Acting Maritime Administrator Lucina Lessley wrote in the May 19 announcement.

"Your graduates have made outstanding contributions to the industry over the years, which is an excellent testimonial to the superior academic and professional education and training they received while attending Clatsop Community College."

The designation opens opportunities for the college to enter into cooperative agreements to help advance recruitment of students and fac-



The Forerunner, Clatsop Community College's research vessel, takes a class out on the water for studies.

Courtesy CCC

ulty, enhance facilities, award student credit for military service, and potentially receive assistance in the form of surplus equipment or temporary

use of maritime vessels.

"Given the critical nature of maritime transportation to our economy, changes such as this, that allow the industry to improve safety and efficiency of operations, have the potential for significant economic impacts throughout the region," said Bill Antilla, a 25-year instructor in the college's maritime science program.

Camping: RV park possible for Skipanon Peninsula

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Newton added, "you guys have really turned this (your financial situation) around and I didn't think it was possible."

Development of the Skipanon Peninsula is a high priority for the port, McGrath said. Expansion of the boatyard is No. 1.

"I think we can get the ball rolling by the end of this year," McGrath said. "The boatyard is first, and this project is second."

Expansion of the boatyard, which was cramped before the log-exporting business dried up, is a three- to four-year process that would include the conversion of 12 acres, plus the addition of an 800-ton mobile lift, an enclosed shop and covered work shed.

The port's Capital Improvement Plan, which was just approved by Business Oregon, lists RV park development among the list of projects. The port owns more than 100 acres on the Skipanon Peninsula, much of it valuable waterfront property. Warrenton Marina is on the west, Youngs Bay is on the east and

it extends south to Harbor Drive in areas.

The port would seek a grant for an RV park feasibility study from Business Oregon. Funds to build the park could come from the state or the port could develop a public-private partnership.

"Given the strong economic outlook for RV parks generally, finding a private partner is imminently possible — especially if the results of the feasibility study are favorable," the port's Capital Improvement Plan states.

During a Warrenton City Commission meeting last week, city leaders discussed ways to add more camping spots at Hammond and Warrenton marinas. And it's likely city commissioners will vote at their next meeting to boost the nightly camping rate from \$40 to \$50.

Members of a new Marinas Advisory Committee will be asked to come up with projects that can be added in the city's Capital Improvement Plan, City Manager Linda Engbretson said.

"I liked the personal approach I received from Ocean View and I'm relieved to think everything will be in order when the time comes."

—from Sherryan Reische



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Chorale to have a 30th anniversary celebration in song

North Coast Chorale will perform in concert as part of a belated 30th anniversary celebration on June 11, 12 and 13 at the Performing Arts Center, 588 16th St., Astoria.

A variety of the group's favorites over the years will be sung, including jazz, gospel, and classical pieces. Deac Guidi, known for his rich bass voice, and blues performer Dinah Urell are collaborating with the chorale and also will perform solo.

Performances are at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday.

A maximum of 50 tickets will be sold for each performance. Tickets are \$10 and available online only at partnersfortheperc.org.

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