

## Plastic conversion facility to build in Columbia Co.

ORPET, a new Oregon-based partnership, announced plans, October 21, for a state-of-the-art, sustainably designed polyethylene terephthalate (PET) plastic bottle recycling facility near St. Helens. ORPET is a partnership between private investors and the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative (OBRC), the predominant administrator of Oregon's nation-leading Bottle Bill. ORPET will begin operations in the second quarter of 2010, immediately creating 50 local, sustainable jobs.

The facility will be the first of its type in the region, converting millions of the PET bottles collected each year through Oregon's Bottle Bill into materials for manufacturing, construction and packaging. ORPET plans to market these products to a wide variety of Northwest companies, providing a local supply chain solution for regional businesses, and eliminating the carbon footprint associated with the current practice of exporting PET bottles to foreign countries.

"This is a very exciting and innovative project that will immediately bring green, living wage jobs to the area," said Tom Leaptrott, Organizing Group Partner. "We have received great cooperation and support from everyone we have approached and look forward to opening the facility as soon as possible."

"Oregon's innovative Bottle Bill and the public's commitment to recycling can benefit both the environment and our region's economy," said Dennis Denton, Organizing Group Partner, ORPET. "Rather than ship these materials overseas, we can put them to work right here in the Northwest, with zero negative environmental impact."

ORPET's collaborative business model leverages a management team with more than 25 years of experience in recycling and materials management, as well as OBRC's expertise with Oregon's Bottle Bill. Today, OBRC manages more than 95 percent of the recyclable containers collected

through the Bottle Bill, which in 2009 added PET water bottles to the 5-cent deposit program. Collection of PET water bottles has increased significantly since their addition to the program, providing a consistent supply of bottles for the facility.

"ORPET is positioned to play an integral role in Oregon's recycling infrastructure," said John Andersen, President, OBRC. "This project magnifies the impact of the Bottle Bill by supporting the increase in PET bottle collections, while simultaneously stimulating our economy and reducing our carbon footprint. It's a win for Oregon, and our environment."

In planning and constructing the facility, ORPET will pursue the U.S. Green Building Council's prestigious LEED green building certification. Plans for the facility include green building elements such as rainwater harvesting, rooftop solar panels, building materials containing recycled content and a variety of features to conserve energy.

## Business Notes

### Tanning beds now at Terry's Gym

Vernonia's sun tanning facility is changing location. Beginning November 16, Terry's Gym, 10720 Noakes Rd., will take over the tanning services that have been provided at Spiralz Hair & Nail Salon.

Terry's Gym will have two tanning beds now, making scheduling much simpler. Both beds are commercial models. Each booth has a decorating theme; one is Marilyn Monroe memorabilia, and one called "the Champs" is decorated with Muhammad Ali posters and pictures.

Tanning packages will remain affordable, but check out the holiday and season change

packages for additional savings. Gym members will receive discounted packages and tanners are eligible for discounted gym memberships.

Tanning appointments will be accepted from 9:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays. The tanning booths will be managed by Karmen Pavlovksy. Call Karmen at 503-913-5313 to book a tanning appointment or to purchase a package.

For gym memberships, call 503-901-1705. For more information, go to [www.terrysgym.com](http://www.terrysgym.com).

## Hospital: Concerns are stated in Proposed Order

From page 1

making Certificate of Need decisions. "While the health district was able to show the need for a limited number of new hospital beds, the increased cost to patients because of having to use an emergency department rather than an urgent care center might actually reduce access to care, particularly for low-income individuals," he said.

The state reviewed the application materials provided by Columbia Health District and also testimony gathered at two hearings from the public, including health care providers

practicing in the area. Based on the evidence provided, the reviewers were not convinced that the new hospital would:

- Be able to bring enough health care providers, particularly physicians, into the community to provide adequate staffing for the new hospital.

- Secure an adequate revenue stream. While the Health District has passed a local tax levy to support a hospital, the community no longer qualifies for the Critical Access Hospital designation it sought, making it more difficult to ensure an adequate revenue stream.

- Decrease the number of

ambulance transports to Portland and Longview hospitals as suggested by the applicant. The limited range of services and lack of inpatient or outpatient surgery or maternity services in the proposed hospital make it unlikely that the need for ambulance transports out of the county would be substantially reduced.

The applicant and affected parties may ask for a re-evaluation by requesting an informal hearing with the Public Health Division by November 2, 2009.

The proposed order is at <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/hsp/certneed/index.shtml>.

## WU: Final approvals may be expected shortly

From page 1

The center will provide Columbia County with a coordinated information center, the hub for an incident command system, a secure community facility, and a central location to manage donated volunteer resources.

In collaboration with Columbia River Fire & Rescue, Columbia County Emergency Management plans to build the emergency operations center

in a manner that is safe, fiscally responsible, and sustainable. The completed center will be coupled with Columbia River Fire & Rescue's existing regional training center to provide a unique training environment for first responders and emergency management personnel.

This project is included in the Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill. The House of Representatives has passed the final version of

the legislation, with House-Senate agreement on the projects to be funded.

The Vernonia project is included in the Interior and Environment appropriations bill, which has also passed in the House with House-Senate agreement on the projects to be funded. The Senate is expected to pass the same versions and send the bills to President Barack Obama to sign into law shortly.

**Money Market**  
**2.00% APY\***

**Our Holiday Season Rate on New Money!**

**Switch to WFCU**

**IRA Savings**  
**2.75% APY\*\***

Your deposit stays local at your credit union.  
NCUA insurance keeps your investment safe and  
Wauna Federal Credit Union keeps it growing.

**Wauna Federal Credit Union**  
*Own the Difference*

**1.800.773.3236**      **www.waunafcu.org**

Astoria	Clatskanie	St Helens	Vernonia	Warrenton
325.1044	728.4321	366.1334	429.8031	861.7526

\*Members of WFCU only. All rates are Annual Percentage Yields and are subject to change. Special Money Market rate is for new money, starts on 11-1-09 and ends on 12-31-09. No minimum balance required. Dividends are paid on balances of \$500 or greater. Money Market Account restrictions apply with a minimum withdrawal of \$100.  
\*\*Members of WFCU only. Rate shown applies to balances \$60,000 or greater. Rates are tiered for other balances. All rates are Annual Percentage Yields and subject to change. IRA Account restrictions apply and a fee is assessed on external IRA transfers. IRS penalties may be assessed on withdrawals. A 25 basis points bonus for members who qualify to withdraw without penalty and continue to use their IRA Savings account.