

## Robbery workshop for businesses

Armed robbery is one of the most serious and potentially dangerous crimes facing a variety of businesses within our community. The Washington County Sheriff's Office is offering a training workshop for retail businesses which is designed to reduce the chance of becoming a target for robbery, and increase the likelihood of apprehending these criminals if a robbery does occur.

The key to robbery prevention and avoiding injury during a robbery is to be fully pre-

pared. Participants will learn about common characteristics and predictors of robbery. They will also learn what to do during and after a robbery, with an emphasis on maintaining their personal safety.

The training is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Sheriff's Office Training Center at 215 SW Adams Avenue in Hillsboro.

To register for this free training, contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 503-846-2579.

## EPA now requires certified remodelers to work on pre-1978 homes

The National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) is making homeowners aware of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations that will take effect on April 22, requiring remodelers working in homes built before 1978 to follow practices designed to minimize the exposure of residents to lead hazards.

"Lead is harmful to both children and adults. In children, a tiny amount of exposure can lead to neurological damage, and in adults, lead inhalation

can lead to hypertension, muscle and joint pain, fatigue and nausea, among other symptoms," says Bob Boothroyd, an EPA Certified Renovator in Connecticut.

The EPA is calling for all remodelers who intend to work in pre-1978 homes to register their companies and complete an 8-hour training and certification course with an accredited trainer. The course teaches remodelers how to safely contain lead in a home as it is being disturbed, and reduce exposure to residents and workers.

## Lawmakers look at "Oil Rig Free" coast

by Chris Thomas, Oregon News Service

President Obama said in his State of the Union address that the country needs to make "tough decisions about opening new offshore areas for oil and gas development." In Salem this week, the Oregon Legislature is already weighing in on that idea.

Lawmakers are considering renewing a ban that expired in December on offshore oil and gas drilling in state coastal waters, which extend three miles

from the shoreline, and making it permanent. The bill (HB 3613) had a hearing on Tuesday in the House Committee on Environment and Water.

Terry Thompson, a long-time commercial fisherman and current Lincoln County commissioner, says the risk of an accident or oil spill has to be taken into account.

"We have seen different places in the country where there has been oil spills and pollution, and Oregon has spent years trying to develop a

clean environment, so this fits right with what our historic attitudes have been."

In his area, Thompson says people would rather see a boost to the industries they already have, including tourism and recreation, marine research and fishing.

"We're looking for jobs - we need 'em very bad on the West coast - but we have jobs in the fishing industry already. We don't want to lose any of our existing jobs, because just trad-

**See Oil on page 14**

NARI wants homeowners to know how to protect themselves from harmful lead exposure during renovations. If you know your home was built before 1978 and your renovation will disturb painted surfaces you will have to hire an EPA Certified Firm.

"Consider it a red flag if a remodeler doesn't mention lead if you live in an older home. Even though the law is not in effect until April, they still need to make homeowners aware of lead exposure," Boothroyd says. Current law requires that renovators give homeowners an EPA brochure called "Reno-

vate Right," which includes facts about lead and lead safety in the home, and have it signed to signal that homeowners have been properly notified of the dangers.

If owners of a pre-1978 home decide to remodel, it is important to assume lead is present unless testing is done to identify exactly where the lead is by using a lead test. The following three main areas of safe work practices recognized by the EPA can be used to help homeowners start the lead conversation:

Containing the work area so that dust and debris does not escape, complete with warning signs, heavy-duty plastic and tape.

Minimizing the dust by using

methods such as misting water on areas before sanding or scraping.

Clean up thoroughly on a daily basis using special cleaning methods such as using a HEPA vacuum and wet mopping with plenty of rinse water.

Certified firms are obligated to prove the certification by displaying their training certificate to homeowners and on the job site. Note that states are able to create more stringent criteria in addition to the EPA's criteria, and the certificate should reflect the state in which the work is being completed.

The EPA also recommends that homeowners have the remodelers specify what the final lead inspection entails. If a homeowner has any doubts about the quality of lead safe practices being conducted in their homes, call 1-800-424-LEAD.

NARI can connect you with remodel-ready contractors who will take care of the entire remodeling process. Find a NARI member on [www.nariremodelers.com](http://www.nariremodelers.com). For green remodeling information, visit [www.greenremodeling.org](http://www.greenremodeling.org).

See page 10 for Banks Library Column

**Jim's Thriftway**

**We have all the Snacks, Beverages and other necessities for your Super Bowl Party.**

**We also have something for your Special Valentine.**



*Cards, Chocolate, Candy, Flowers & More*

**660 So. Main, Banks • 503-324-2171**

## Super Quiet Portable Power



### EU2000i

- 2000 Watts (16.7A) of Honda Inverter 120V AC Power
- Eco-Throttle™ - Runs Up to 15 Hours on 1 gal. of Fuel
- Advanced Inverter Technology Provides Reliable Power to Computers and Other Sensitive Equipment
- Power for Microwave, Refrigerators, Hair Dryers and Small AC Units

**Forest Grove Honda**  
3619 Pacific Ave.,  
Forest Grove, OR  
887-500-7300 or 503-357-7300



Connection of a generator to house power requires a transfer device to avoid possible injury to power company personnel. Consult a qualified electrician. For optimum performance and safety, we recommend you read the owner's manual before operating your Honda Power Equipment. © 2007 American Honda Motor Co., Inc.

## STRASSEL'S AUTO REPAIR & HYDRAULIC HOSES

2-4-6 SPIRAL WIRE SUCTION HOSES  
ADAPTORS - 3/16" TO 2"  
AMERICAN & METRIC FITTINGS  
BULK OIL PRODUCTS

**276 SUNSET, BANKS**  
**503-324-9808**

