CCC brings solar-powered energy to main campus, lowers energy costs

CAITLIN WRIGHT

The power-producing network that employs the rooftop solar panels on Clatsop Community College’s Towler Hall is now operational. The system has the potential to generate 42.5 kW of power for Towler Hall. Clatsop Community College has entered into a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with the company SolarCity and their investors. According to the company’s website, SolarCity is the nation’s leading full-service solar provider for homeowners, businesses and government organizations—the first company to provide solar power system design, financing, installation and monitoring services from a single source. SolarCity installed the net metering system and will maintain it for fifteen years. The PPA allows for the use to utilize clean, solar power electricity. The College purchases the power generated by the system at the approximately same rate they pay the power company. Yet when the system generates more power than Towler Hall requires, it spins the power company’s meter back.

Over winter break CCC biology instructor Michael Bunch went to Costa Rica to work with sea turtle preservation. The Bandit thanks Michael for his contribution to the paper. His article is based on his faculty development report that he emailed to the campus community earlier in January.

As part of CCC-supported faculty development, I flew to Liberia, Costa Rica (CR), right after finals, rented a small 4WD SUV and drove 90 miles over rough and mostly dirt roads to Punta Pargos, CR. Punta Pargos is a very rural area of relatively small, mostly fishing-support communities on the Pacific coast about 80 miles south of the Nicaragua border. The beaches are absolutely stunning: sparkling white to intense black, wonderful for surfing, boogie boarding, and swimming, and for most of the year, not heavily used. Upon my arrival to Punta Par- gos, I found that Sea Turtles Forever, a Seaside, Oregon, based conservation group I had gone to CR to work with, had snagged a modest cabina for my stay. For the next two-plus weeks, I had a rustic (no hot water), but completely charming, place and time to make my own, and works with schools to help build a lasting conservation ethic.

STF hires people from Punta Pargos to help with turtle work, develops low impact ecotourism activities that will help with the local economy, and works with schools to help build a lasting conservation ethic. Meeting many, many Punta Pargos residents this winter was particularly rewarding.

Several of my afternoons were used to find out how Costa Ricans were developing ecologically sustainable community projects. I spoke with folks from Rancho Margot, a sustainable farm in central Costa Rica, with the owner of a nursery specializing in native medicinal and edible plants, and with a community group working to establish both a local forest reserve and a sustainably based health center. A number of organizations such as Rancho Margot take interns, many of whom are college students.

The beaches of Punta Pargos are home to four/five species of sea turtles; green, black?, olive ridley, leatherback, and, as confirmed by our work this year, hawksbill. This is one of the most diverse sea turtle communities on the planet. Our ef- forts to help conserve and rehabilitate this turtle community now extends beyond camouflage nesting and studying the influences of environmental factors such as sand temperatures and beach debris on hatching success. Present field work with marine turtles includes tagging them so we can follow their movements among the local beaches. One of the turtles tagged in our area was observed on a beach nearly thirty miles to the south, so we now know that the turtles, like salmon, sometimes stray, and use a fairly large territory for nesting. Tagging operations should also help us determine where turtles in Costa Rica

A Leatherback Sea Turtle nesting on Playa Aveanas in Costa Rica.

Photo courtesy of Michael Bunch
Surf’s up, way up in winter!

TRISTA CHURCHILL
REPORTER

What does winter on the North Oregon Coast mean? Well, usually it means seemingly countless inches of rain (that often comes down sideways), many storms, and only rare glimpses of the sun. While many of us in the area love living here for the most part, there are definitely times in the fall/winter months when it can seem quite dreary and far away from the rest of the world. When it’s raining sideways and you’re trying your best to fall off the winter drums, what do you do for fun? Is there anything besides bunkering down on your coach under a blanket, or going to the bar and drinking the day away (if you’re twenty-one or older of course)?

My answer: “ Heck, yeah. Surf’s up, way up!” Many people think that surfing is just something to do in the summer, but the real surfing around here happens mostly in the winter. All the winter storms bring big and pumpin’ waves to the Oregon Coast. It’s not like rain is a problem when you’re soaking wet from bobbing around in the ocean; all rain is at that point is a little tickle on your face.

Surfing is a great way to stay in shape and have fun outdoors during any time of the year. It doesn’t happen in the summer, but the real surfing action, and it was exhilarating. Many people think that it all sounds very cold, well, the water is cold, but it actually is a few degrees warmer in the winter than it is in the summer. It’s the air temperature that makes you feel cold. The proper wetsuit, gloves, booties, and constant movement of paddling around, and hopefully catching a lot of epic waves will keep you warm, warm enough.

Though surfing in the winter can be a have experience surfing and feel like it is something you think you might like to do in the winter months, then make it a long-term goal and take a lesson or two in the summer when the waves are gentler and work your way up to it slowly. Trust me, surfing well is something you work up to over a period of years.

Photo above: Baby greens emerging from their nest. The Ba

Sea turtles

The region’s sea turtle population size (and change in the community). Considerable data suggest that many sea turtles return to nest every three or four years. Since this is our third year of tagging turtles, next year we expect to see tagged turtles returning to the beaches of Punta Pargos as part of an attempt to reduce poaching, which heavily impacts many sea turtle populations, we hire former poachers (who are like local fishermen) to help with our work. This not only reduces the poaching impact, but brings money and conservation to the community. Other regional turtle conservation groups are now collaborating with us to protect the Punta Pargos turtles. This winter I worked for several days with a group of graduate students from Universidad de Costa Rica in planning a collaborative study of the genetics of green sea turtles on the Guanacaste coast. We hope to determine whether the Eastern Pacific population of what have been called green turtles actually consists of two species, greens and blacks, or simply consists of two races of greens. In either case, the findings will significantly impact conservation efforts.

During those days when tides were not suitable for turtles to nest, I traveled to environmental reserves including the internationally famous Monte Verde cloud forest preserve. Here I took a canopy tour similar to one I would recommend for future students. I also went to Arenal Volcano National Park, which has volcanic features and ecological richness similar to Yellowstones, to national wetlands, and to several smaller reserves and parks. My trip gave me the opportunity to view and in some cases study an incredible variety of wildlife, including reef fishes, invertebrate terrestrials, amazing insects and spiders, frogs and toads, mammals including howler monkeys, anteaters, koalas, and many, many birds (over a dozen new ones for my life list), and of course reptiles including crocodiles, as well as the four (or five) species of marine turtles. I was able to work in ecosystems including reefs, intertidal, rocky and sandy shores, estuaries, ripar-

Sea turtles

Continued from page 1

The big stores are fine as long as they do not mean a loss of business to the local thrill stores. The Bandit asks, “What is your opinion of the new big businesses in Warrenton?”

Adam Yaws
Barbara Martine
Cindy Van Deventer
Thaddeaus Edmund

As a resident of Astoria, I don’t [care] that many turtles return to nest every three or four years. Since this is our third year of tagging turtles, next year we expect to see tagged turtles returning to the beaches of Punta Pargos as part of an attempt to reduce poaching, which heavily impacts many sea turtle populations, we hire former poachers (who are like local fishermen) to help with our work. This not only reduces the poaching impact, but brings money and conservation to the community. Other regional turtle conservation groups are now collaborating with us to protect the Punta Pargos turtles. This winter I worked for several days with a group of graduate students from Universidad de Costa Rica in planning a collaborative study of the genetics of green sea turtles on the Guanacaste coast. We hope to determine whether the Eastern Pacific population of what have been called green turtles actually consists of two species, greens and blacks, or simply consists of two races of greens. In either case, the findings will significantly impact conservation efforts.

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Footnote

By the morning of December 30 we had saved approximately forty nests (ca. 4000 turtle babies) and the season was only half over.
In the past, the state appropriated as much as $500 million to the 17 Oregon community colleges. On February 1, Governor Kitzhaber proposed $410 million for the community colleges.

President of College Services Lindi Overton has been working with a budgetary model based on 400 million. Unfortunately, all numbers are subject to change, and no one knows what the economy or the state legislature will do.

In the meantime, the college still faces a huge deficit in the budget and must plan as well as it can. Galizio acknowledged the work of Overton and others including Stephen Schoonmaker and Tom Gill. However, it’s unavoidable that there will be personnel reductions, the probability of freezing cost of living adjustments, and the likelihood of tuition increases.

The task of not negatively impacting the college community as a whole was included in the framework of this proposed budget. Explicit, purposeful attempts were made when looking at reductions in personnel. CCC plans to transition back affected individuals into different position ratios at the college in varied capacities.

According to Schoonmak- er, the college is being stretched too short-term and long-term goals. Prior- ity lists were suggested to add back positions as money becomes available.

Throughout the meet- ings, questions, comments, and ideas were welcomed from those in attendance. By the amount of people in attendance it was clear that there was an emotion- ally charged group with concerned faculty and em- ployees eager to learn the fate of their co-workers.

Some were noticeably shaken and left the meeting early. A question asked by both Joanne Dybach and Pat Callas was what percentage of their salaries all staff would have to give up to save the positions in question, a clear sign that as a community we might have to adjust our priorities to assist the lives of others. As the Bandit goes to press, follow-up meetings and talks are still being held.
Hiﬂish beneﬁts

AIRI KONDO-MATTHEWS REPORTER

On December 16, 2010, a ﬁre on the historic Astoria riverfront destroyed two buildings—the Canby Building and the No. 36th Street, which housed more than 30 businesses and organizations that were lost on Hipfish Day. Among losses was the Astoria riverfront destroyed two buildings—the Canby Building and the No. 36th Street. The mission is to cater to the city’s homeless with the Hipfish benefit.

Conversations on faith

Diverse voices shape World Religion Day at PAC

JOSE LILLY REPORTER

According to the Baha’i faith, the “light of the world” refers to Jesus Christ. God that mode of thinking is what led the faith to create World Religion Day, a yearly event that invites people of all religions to participate in a one-hand, for a more efﬁcient way for the homeless population to get a hold of the resources and information they need. Agen- ties such as the Department of Human Services, Clatsop County Action, Clatsop County Food Bank, and Employment Services are all on offer at this event. Also of- fered is the Linn van, which provides immunizations, eye exams, hearing-cuts, diabetes testing, and other health checks-up. At Project Homeless Connect, clients are able to have a hot meal and warm clothing, receive hous- ing information, assistance in applying for food stamps, Social Security, and Medicaid, and have medical screenings, im- munizations, hair-cuts, edu- cational information; apply for birth certificates/social security cards; receive legal services and more. There is also a “point-and-time-count” which is a series of questions designed to give agencies in- formation that needs services—but, their names are never given; this count and survey are all ways confidential. The intake volunteers ask questions about their age, how many people in the household, if the house- hold is single-parent or dual- parent, what services they are already receiving, and if the individual is a military vet- eran. Volunteers stress that ser- vices are crucial for receiving both state and federal funding to provide local services for the next two years.

In a way, the homeless community is home to Hipﬁsh Day. In Clat- sop County—your never wit- ness a person hiding under a bridge, or asking for money on a street corner, but the popula- tion does exist. Many people are coach-surfing or families living in the trees above where the monks meditated. At ﬁrst they were happy the monks were there, but af- ter a while they grew tired of the monks, so they did all they could to scare them away. The monks ran to the Buddha and said, “You told us to meditate here, but we’re too scared. We can’t go back; it’s too danger- ous out there.” The Buddha then led a guided medita- tion, and told them that all they really need to solve their problem. That night, word and deed are a ground that each of us plants with seeds each day,” Walden wrote. It is an important ground of ac- tion, for anything we want to see changing from the Bud- dhist stand point.

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Corinna Cottrell

North Coast Symphony, Concert

“The Vagina Monologues”

The last pieces of the day ranged by Sammy Nestico. The show started with John Bue...
Counseling and Student Services Update

Attending college while attempting to balance the rest of your life’s opportunities and responsibilities can become overwhelming. When experiencing challenges that impede your learning and performance, students can participate in personal counseling. Counseling serves as an important resource to help students recognize and use resources to enhance health and wellness, without charge. Counseling can take many forms, including individual counseling, couples counseling, family counseling, group counseling, relaxation training, massage therapy, and sport psychology. Counseling may involve interpersonal problems, depression, anxiety, or any other mental or emotional concerns, substance abuse for oneself or others, or problems resulting from a disability. Counseling can involve a consultation, a series of ongoing sessions, or both. To seek counseling and community resources:

- The primary local public source for free health services is Portland State University’s Wellness Center. To make an appointment, call 503-725-6767.
- Harrison Health Counseling Services at 503-603-7621, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Mon. to Fri., 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends.
- Counseling services are also available on an ongoing basis at Oregon Health & Science University’s Center for Student Health and Wellness Counseling Services.

To help alleviate costs for students, Columbia Memorial Hospital has provided entry-level training in health care interpreting services. The program also provides access to quality health care interpreting services. The program also provides access to quality health care interpreting services.

JIM HOLEN
JIM HOLEN

New Letters

BRENNELA REPORTER

At the far end of CCC’s library parking lot is the old stand that used to be a combination of various food vendors. This is great in need of attention. Recently, the college board members gathered to give the campus dining facilities a new look and feel, and in doing so, provide a much-needed improvement to the project. She noted that college board member Jim Scheller expressed concern that the college’s food service is in the process of rising, whereas the new menu options are currently being offered.

BRENNELA REPORTER

For those of us dedicated to good food, sound health, and fine dining, breakfast is the beginning of a day of pleasurable eating. By early morning, the satisfaction of my favorite midnight snack—peanut butter and anchovy sandwich—had diminished, but my own refrigerator followed by something home cooked in a small bowl of vanilla ice cream with a banana and a sprinkle of peanuts, and I am eager to begin yet another day of searching for that perfect breakfast.

Many restaurants offer a delicious and tastefully presented breakfast menu, but I don’t think that my first breakfast at home so early morning would be the same if I had to order the Coordinator for any change in course enrollment or at the time the term registration opens March 7. Submit completed Spring Term forms to the academic advising office.

In a Daily Astorian story, "College Trail Improvement Project" notes that the Columbia Trail Improvement project will entail clearing the brush, cleaning and clearing to reconnect the campus to the hillside. The project will definitely be a class project that would provide students with practical experience. Certainly, students with an interest in landscaping, forestry, or just the outdoors might have the opportunity to become involved on some level. This type of project provides a skill set, which far outweighs the hard, physical work.

Having the ground broken, the refurbished trail will be connected to the campus on the top of the hill, and the existing trails, including the Columbia Trail, will provide great outdoor experiences for the college community.

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The show was a short film by a woman. From 4pm to 9pm. The kick-off to the benefit was located at the Co-Box Gallery, and Dots and Dots Gallery, Old Town Framing throughout the month. The TRiO programs' roots are in developing your personal counseling to aid you in making a decision which school is right for you. You can meet with the Guidance Coordinator to help you in managing your budget, managing your credit, and paying for college. The tables and meeting room was well equipped with various pamphlets and folders of pertinent materials for students to use and review. The vast array of literature presented and exciting programs that have been developed and are now offered through the college and the Oregon Employment Department.

Program office, laptop computers, and a group of Plus Program students will be volunteering at Project Homeless Intervention. TRiO students and graduates will be able to participate in various workshops and folders of pertinent materials for students to use and review. The vast array of literature presented new and exciting programs that have been developed and are now offered through the college and the Oregon Employment Department.

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Photographer Christopher Rauschenberg sees himself as a tour guide directing the viewers’ attention to seemingly ordinary objects which look different through closer exploration.

In 1996, his father traveled to Turkey and raved about how the experience was enriching and inspiring. Though it took thirteen years for Rauschenberg to travel to this country, he agreed with his father’s assessment. His travels started in the city of Istanbul, where he photographed the mosques and palaces in his collection—like the Little Blue Mosque and Topkapi Palace. He moved on to the town of Goreme, his base for exploring the homes and churches that were carved into the rocks of Cappadocia by the early Christians. In his third stop throughout Turkey, he captured the wonderful ruins of Ephesus in the city of Selcuk.

Rauschenberg photographs all around the world, with its different environments and surroundings. He has traveled to twenty-six different nations from places like Argentina, to Cuba, to Morocco. The photographer was born in New York in 1951 and has practiced this medium since 1957. He studied at Evergreen State College, in Olympia, Washington, where he earned a B.A. in photography. Later, Rauschenberg taught this art form at Marylhurst University from 1982 to 1996. In 1995, he organized a group of a dozen artists who joined him in a nine-year long systematic photographic exploration and documentation of the city of Portland. You can view the pieces at www.PortlandgridProject.com.

Christopher Rauschenberg is brilliant at his work and states that “the ordinary world around you is not so ordinary—you need to explore it.” With these Turkish panoramas, Rauschenberg had a marvelous time exploring these places, and now it’s the viewer’s turn. We hope he keeps persisting with his medium, and wish him the best. More about the photographer, his upcoming events, and portfolio can be found at his website: www christopher rauschenberg.com.

A panoramic display of Rauschenberg’s work is now on exhibit through the 10th of February at CCC’s Art Center Gallery.