

KCA ...

Continued from A-9

Several board members raised concerns over substitute teacher availability, with Board Chair Jennifer Johnstun worried the absence of one of the credentialed teachers could disrupt students graduating on time. Elder said there are some subs lined up, but she hopes to broaden the sub pool as KCA's first school year approaches.

Johnstun also said a "big question" was regarding securing a facility for KCA. DeNardo said the co-founders are working with a real estate agent and actively seeking a location, having toured five potential sites between Selma and O'Brien.

"We have five additional buildings of interest in the downtown area, as well as three buildings of interest within a two-mile radius of (Cave Junction) city limits," added DeNardo. "It's also difficult to nail down a building if you don't know if you're a school yet. So, our hands are in the community and we're trying to search it out."

Towards the end of the meeting, Johnstun said one of her biggest concerns was longevity and

continuity, elaborating that "life happens" and one or more of the co-founders may relocate, leaving KCA short-staffed. She requested more details on long-term plans so that KCA will endure through future administrations.

Elder said that administration turnover sometime in the future may, in fact, be a "blessing" because the KCA creators want to avoid "founder's syndrome" and remain open to new ideas rather than become rigid in their school philosophy.

"Creating something from nothing has been a big leap of faith," Elder confessed. "We can be fluid and always evolving the concept of this school."

Valenzuela brought the session to a close by saying he will be offering the board's interpretation of KCA's answers during the TRSD board's regular session, Wednesday, April 20 at 4 p.m. at North Valley High School. The vote to approve or reject the Kalmiopsis Community Arts High School charter will be held May 18 at the district office.

Go to kcahs.org for more information on the proposed high school.

Illinois Valley Garden Club News:

by Kathy Lombardo

Seeds, Seeds, Seeds in a Nutshell

Most of us have started plants from seed, hopefully from the time we could enjoy the outdoors.

Seeds are miracles in tiny packages. The mighty Sycamore tree comes from a seed the size of a flea. Giant Sequoia, same.

The best way to acquire specialty vegetables is to start them from seed. Non-hybrid, or heritage, plants all can be grown from saved and shared seed.

The Illinois Valley Garden Club was first formed to help protect the amazing wild plants that have evolved here. One way to help is to really get to know your little piece of land, before you go tearing it up to do your own thing. There are surprises, quite possibly rare plants, if you pay attention for an entire year. Digging them up can kill the Golden Goose, but saving and planting some of the seed can expand the population.

This month Frail Cordeiro, a local gardener with horticultural experience, and a passion for unusual plants, will be presenting a program on this subject. The Horticulture table will have examples of seed-started plants. If interested, please check Save the Date for the next meeting.



(Photos by Laura Mancuso, Illinois Valley News)

The Southern Oregon Guild of Artists and Artisans celebrated Renaissance 2022 Sunday, April 10 at the Guild Gallery and Art Center. Above is Sheila Mason with her new piece called Bear Meadow, a triptych-acrylic on canvas. Below is sculptor Terry Davis strumming his guitar.



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