

COMMUNITY NOTES

SATURDAY

Angora Hiking Club — 9 a.m., Sixth Street parking lot. Labyrinth walk at Willapa Bay. For information, call Kathleen Adams at 541-262-3458.

Cannon Beach American Legion Women's Auxiliary Breakfast — 9 to 11:30 a.m., American Legion, 1216 S. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach.

Columbia Northwestern Model Railroad Club — 1 p.m., in Hammond. Group runs trains on HO-scale layout. For information, call Don Carter at 503-325-0757.

SUNDAY

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Support Group — 2 to 3:30 p.m., Seaside Public Library, 1131 Broadway. For anyone with friend or loved one suffering from a serious brain (mental) illness. For information, contact Myra Kero at 503-738-6165, or k7erowood@q.com, or go to www.nami.org

Line Dancing — 5:30 to 8 p.m., Seaside American Legion, 1315 Broadway. For information, call 503-738-5111. No cost; suggested \$5 tip to the instructor.

MONDAY

Senior Lunch — 11:30 a.m., Bob Chisholm Senior Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Suggested donation \$3 for those older than 60; \$6.75 for those younger than 60. For information, call Michelle Lewis at 503-861-4200.

Columbia Senior Diners — 11:30 a.m., Peace Lutheran Church (lower level), 565 12th St. Cost is \$5. For information, or to have a meal delivered, call 503-325-9693.

Warrenton Senior Lunch Program — noon, Warrenton Community Center, 170 S.W. Third St. Suggested donation of \$5 for seniors and \$7 for those younger than 60. For information, or to volunteer, call 503-861-3502 Monday or Thursday.

Astoria Rotary Club — noon, second floor of the Astoria Elks Lodge, 453 11th St. Guests always welcome. For information, go to www.AstoriaRotary.org

Warrenton Kiwanis Club — noon to 1 p.m., Doogers Seafood and Grill, 103 U.S. Highway 101, Warrenton. For information, call Darlene Warren at 503-861-2672.

Knochlers Pinochle Group

Mentor earns highest Scouting volunteer honor

Youth mentor Laurie Kautz of the Fort Clatsop District, Cascade Pacific Council, Boy Scouts of America was presented the prestigious Silver Beaver Volunteerism Award Feb. 26 at a special recognition ceremony in her honor.

The Silver Beaver Award is the top award that a local Boy Scout council can bestow upon a volunteer mentor. Recipients are selected by confidential nominations of adult peers, and only one award may be presented for every 60 troops, making it a prominent honor.

Kautz started scouting in Portland in the 1980s as a Sea Scout. She has served as a pack committee and den leader for Pack 540, and in the Fort Clatsop District as the popcorn kernel, day camp director and Cub Scout leader trainer. She is currently the district program chairwoman. Kautz has attended Woodbadge, and earned several Cub Scout awards and the District Award of Merit. As a U.S. Coast Guard member during



Laurie Kautz

the Portland Flood of 1997, she worked search and rescue, did property watch and assisted with debris removal. As a member of the Coast Guard Reserve she earned the rank of boatswain mate 2nd class. She has also worked with the local Sea Scouts and other venturing units to do joint activities, and has involved a Venturing Crew to help with Cub Scout recruiting.

Kautz's prime focus has been on children with disabilities. She has two autistic children, and has used her knowledge of autism to support the Gearhart and Seaside school districts. She is an active member of the PTA, promoting autistic children's programs, and has helped scouting and community leaders by bringing experts to present courses on the support autistic children.

For information about Scouting programs, go to www.cpcbsa.org or call the council office at 503-226-3423.

TUESDAY

— 1 p.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Cost is \$1 per regular session per person. Players with highest and second highest scores split the prize. Game is designed for players 55 and older, but all ages are welcome.

Diabetes Class — 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Providence Seaside Hospital, 725 S. Wahanna Road, Seaside. Free help managing diabetes. All are welcome. For information, go to www.providence.org/diabetes or call 503-717-7301.

Line Dancing for Seniors — 6 to 7:30 p.m., Astoria Senior Center, temporarily located at 1555 W. Marine Drive in the old Astoria Yacht Club. For information, call 503-325-3231.

Clatsop County Democrats — 6:30 to 9 p.m., Astoria Yacht Club, 300 Industry St., Suite 201 (at the West End Mooring Basin, above Tiki Charters). For information, call 503-717-1614 or go to http://clatsopdemocrats.org

Do Nothing Club — 10 a.m. to noon, 24002 U St., Ocean Park, Wash. Men's group. For information, call Jack McBride at 360-665-2721.

Senior Lunch — 11:30 a.m., Bob Chisholm Senior Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Suggested donation of \$3 for those older than 60; \$6.75 for those younger than 60. For information, call Michelle Lewis at 503-861-4200.

Columbia Senior Diners — 11:30 a.m., Peace Lutheran Church (lower level), 565 12th St. The cost is \$5. For information, or to have a meal delivered, call 503-325-9693.

Astoria Lions Club — noon, Astoria Elks Lodge, 453 11th St. Prospective members welcome. For information, contact Charlene Larsen at 503-325-0590.

Spinning Circle — 3 to 5 p.m., Astoria Fiber Arts Academy, 1296 Duane St. Bring a spinning wheel. For information, call 503-325-5598 or go to http://astoriafiberarts.com

Line Dancing for Seniors — 1 to 3 p.m., Astoria Senior Center, temporarily located at 1555 W. Marine Drive in the old Astoria Yacht Club. For information, call 503-325-3231.

Astoria Library Friends Association — 2 p.m. annual meeting, Flag Room, Astoria Library, 450 10th St. Members and nonmembers are welcome. For information, call 503-325-7323 or go to http://astorialibrary.org

Spinning Circle — 3 to 5 p.m., Astoria Fiber Arts Academy, 1296 Duane St. Bring a spinning wheel. For information, call 503-325-5598 or go to http://astoriafiberarts.com

WEDNESDAY

Open Sewing Gathering — 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Homespun Quilts, 108 10th St. For information, call 503-325-3300 or 800-298-3177 or go to http://homespunquilt.com

Wickiup Senior Lunches — 11:30 a.m., Wickiup Grange Hall, 92683 Svensen Market Road. Free for those older than 60 (\$3 sug-

gested donation), \$6.75 for those younger than age 60. For information, call Michelle Lewis at 503-861-4200.

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Blood Pressure Checks — noon to 2 p.m., Astoria Senior Center, temporarily located at 1555 W. Marine Drive in the old Astoria Yacht Club. For information, call 503-325-3231.

International Longshore and Warehouse Union Pensioners — noon luncheon, 1 p.m. meeting, Local No. 50 Longshore Hall, 491 Industry St.

Ukulele Players — 1:30 p.m., Warrenton Masonic Lodge, 66 S.W. Fourth St., Warrenton. All are welcome, including beginners. Loaner ukuleles available. For information, call Roger Williams at 503-717-5645.

Fat Quarter Quilters — 5:30 to 8 p.m., Homespun Quilts, 108 10th St. Not limited to quilts. For information, call 503-325-3300 or 800-298-3177 or go to http://homespunquilt.com

THURSDAY

Wickiup Senior Lunches — 11:30 a.m., Wickiup Grange Hall, 92683 Svensen Market Road. Free for those older than 60 (\$3 suggested donation), \$6.75 for those younger than age 60. For information, call Michelle Lewis at 503-861-4200.

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Seaside Rotary Club — noon, Shilo Inn, 20 N. Prom, Seaside. For information, go to http://seasiderotary.com

Knochlers Pinochle Group — 1 p.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Group hosts free refresher and beginning course in card game of pinochle. Course open to anyone 55 and older.

Lower Columbia Chief Petty Officers Association — 1 p.m., Astoria Moose Lodge, 420 17th St. For information, call Dave Kinney at 415-827-9190.

Columbia River Meditation Group — 6 to 7:30 p.m., Room 306, Towler Hall, Clatsop Community College. Class format, registration required. Drop-ins welcome. For information, call Ron Macted at 503-338-9153.

Clatsop County Republicans — 7 p.m., old Port of Astoria offices, 422 Gateway Ave. For information, call 503-738-6474 or go to www.clatsopcountyoregon.republican

FRIDAY

AAUW Walking Group — 9:30 a.m. Seaside Branch of American Association of University Women weekly low-impact group walk, followed by coffee and fellowship. For information, call 503-738-7751.

Senior Lunch — 11:30 a.m., Bob Chisholm Senior Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Suggested donation of \$3 for those older than 60; \$6.75 for those younger than 60. For information, call Michelle Lewis at 503-861-4200.

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Open Skating — 5 to 9 p.m., Astoria Armory, 1650 Exchange St. Admission \$2. Limited roller skate rentals available for \$3; bring own skates if possible.

OTHER

U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Yocona (168) Sailors — Reunion of shipmates being planned in 2015 for anyone stationed on the cutter Yocona. For information, contact Ken Pearson at 503-741-0860 or kenpearson@centurytel.net

Gearhart gets new playground

Committee meets goal to have structure installed by spring break

By KATHERINE LACAZE
EO Media Group

GEARHART — The Gearhart Elementary School has two new playgrounds.

They arrived March 14, delivered by truck to the school, where a large group of community members waited, eager to install them despite chilly wind and rain.

The shiny blue playgrounds are made possible by the efforts of the 10-member Gearhart Playground Project Committee and local donations of time, money, labor and materials.

"This really is a community project," said Erin Jackson, a member of the playground committee, a subgroup of the school's Parent-Teacher-Student Organization. Without volunteers, the project never would have materialized, she said.

When Gearhart's only existing playgrounds, located outside the school, started deteriorating last spring, the idea to replace them was born.

Two slides broke on one of the structures, where nearly 30 years old, third-grade teacher Suzi Regan said.

"The kids said, 'we should do something about that,' and I said, 'you're right,'" she said.

The playground committee was formed to address the problem. The group, which includes teachers, parents and Principal Juli Wozniak, set a goal to have the play sets ready for use by spring break 2015.

That goal was accomplished last weekend with the help of several dozen community members who showed up on a rainy morning and worked



Photos by KATHERINE LACAZE — EO Media Group

Gearhart Elementary School replaced its two existing playgrounds, which were about 30 years old, with new structures. Community members started installing the play sets last weekend, and the work was completed this week. The Gearhart Playground Project Committee's goal was to have the structures installed by spring break 2015.

long hours to install the equipment.

The North Coast Building Industry Association rounded up about 10 builders and construction workers to do the specialized labor; the association also obtained donations of machinery and materials for the project. Warrenton's A-1 Ready Mix poured concrete for the playground sites.

The playground sets, which were selected with input from the elementary students, are environmentally friendly, handicap-accessible and able to withstand the coastal weather.

Both are designated for kindergarten through fifth-

grade students. The playgrounds aren't exclusively for elementary students, however: The public can use them year-round.

"We hope it gets used throughout the summer," Jackson said.

The playground equipment cost about \$70,000. A majority of those funds were raised through a dinner and auction at the Astoria Golf and Country Club in November. The rest came from a Turkey Trot Fun Run the week before Thanksgiving; a family night-out fundraiser at McMenamins Gearhart Hotel and Sand Trap Pub last fall; and individual donations from citizens and business-

ABOVE: Dozens of community members showed up at Gearhart Elementary School March 14 to help install two new playgrounds on the school's campus. The playgrounds were purchased with funds raised by the Gearhart Playground Project Committee, a subgroup of the Parent-Teacher Organization.

Doggie Dash to donate to shelter

SEASIDE — Hillcrest Inn is sponsoring a Doggie Dash, a 2-mile walk/run, at 10 a.m. March 28, starting at Cartwright Park, 1942 S. Franklin St. in Seaside.

The cost is \$20 per person, and more than one dog is allowed per person. Half of the proceeds will go directly to the Clatsop County Animal Shelter. Prizes are being given for the fastest time, ugliest

dog and dog/owner couple who look the most alike. Photo opportunities are provided by Kaptured Moments. Coffee, water, snacks and dog treats will be available.

To register, go to http://bit.ly/1wkHYM1, click on "Sports & Fitness" on the menu at left, and scroll down to Doggie Dash. For information, call the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District at 503-738-3311.

Seaside High School teacher wins Daughters of the American Revolution award

The Astoria Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, announces the 2015 Oregon State Society Daughters of the American Revolution (OSSDAR) award winner of the Outstanding Teacher of American History Contest: Mike Hawes of Seaside High School.

He will be presented at the OSSDAR State Conference Awards Luncheon to be held in Wilsonville May 16. His entry will be submitted to the National DAR contest.

The national winner will be honored at the 124th Continental Congress and will receive a check for \$3,000, a special certificate and a book.

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