

Ilwaco hires new middle school principal from Astoria

By KATIE WILSON
EO Media Group

ILWACO, Wash. — A new principal is coming to Ilwaco Middle School.

After a round of interviews, the Ocean Beach School District offered the job to Chad Madsen, current assistant principal at Astoria High School. He will replace former principal Marc Simmons. Simmons resigned in November; since January, his position has been filled by an interim principal.

Madsen has worked as the assistant principal at Astoria High School for three years, and before that taught math, physical education and health at both As-

toria High School and Seaside High School. The school board is expected to approve his hiring at its next meeting April 27.

As Middle School principal, Madsen will lead a building that has already weathered a number of changes in the last school year and must adjust for even more in the year to come.

Last September, as renovation work wrapped up at the Ilwaco High School building next to Black Lake and a new superintendent took over at the district office, the middle school became its own entity after seven years of sharing space with the high school students. The district's sixth-grade classes were also added to its roster



Chad Madsen

— a transition that Superintendent Jenny Risner said later was rushed and poorly planned. Then, in November, Principal Marc Simmons resigned and the district had to scramble to find an interim principal. The board

approved the hire of Deb Turver at the beginning of January and she has been serving as principal there ever since.

Then, the board approved Risner's recommendation to send all the fifth-grade classes to the middle school where they will form a separate elementary school entity with the sixth-grade classes. The district administration hopes the move will help free up space at Long Beach Elementary where enrollment has continued to grow this year and ease the transition for sixth-grade students entering middle school.

Madsen will oversee both the middle school and this

new fifth- and sixth-grade elementary school.

Strong record

Risner said she is confident that he is up for the job.

"His references were glowing," she said in a phone interview April 20, "and the work he's done as an assistant principal and the opportunities he's had have really prepared him to lead his own building. ... He's had multiple opportunities to be the person in charge."

"He really seems like a forward, progressive thinker and I think the building will benefit from that," she said.

The district had a large pool of candidates to draw from. A

total of 13 people applied, Risner said. (Turver had also indicated when she was hired as interim that she would be interested in the job.) These 13 were narrowed down to five possible candidates.

On April 14, the same day a hoax mass-shooting threat sent the district into lockdown, teams of teachers and administrators interviewed the five candidates, ultimately offering the job to Madsen.

Risner believes Madsen's prior experience with living on the coast will be an advantage.

"Just knowing the challenges that the coast can bring with the climate and the rural nature of where we live," she said. "I think it's going to help him a lot."

County pursues hazardous waste center

By The Daily Astorian

Clatsop County's Household Hazardous Waste Program is moving forward this year with creating a permanent collection center to dispose of toxic, flammable and other corrosive items, according to the county.

The collection center is planned for construction at the Astoria Transfer Station. It will collect hazardous products such as pesticides and herbicides, paint, cleaning solvents and other materials not suitable for disposal with standard household trash.

It is expected to open in April 2016.

With the project underway, the county announced this week it will no longer sponsor the yearly household hazardous waste collection events held each May.

Until the new collection center is operating, residents can find other options online at www.co.clatsop.or.us

The center will be open at least eight times per year to collect waste items from county residents and qualifying small businesses.

The center will be funded through an Oregon Department of Environmental Quality grant and a sur-

charge on garbage collection rates.

Many home and yard products when not completely used up accumulate in cabinets, garage shelves or outdoor sheds exposing children and pets to toxic chemicals, the county warns.

Hazardous wastes should not be put down home drains, street storm water drains, discarded in the garbage or poured on the ground. Doing so pollutes water, places harmful chemicals in the sewage/septic systems and exposes waste haulers and fire fighters needlessly to haz-

ardous conditions.

The following is a list of ways the county suggests reducing hazards year-round:

- Reduce the amount that may sit in cupboards by purchasing only what is needed.
- Read the labels before buying to purchase nontoxic products whenever possible.
- Look into green alternative products.
- When storing hazardous products, put them in a safe place away from children and pets, and keep them in their original containers.
- Share unused product with a neighbor or friend to get rid of it all.

ODFW hosts family fishing event at Vernonia Pond

VERNONIA — The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife invites new anglers to take part in its Family Fishing Event from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at Vernonia Pond, a 42-acre former mill pond located in Vernonia.

The event is free and open to the public. ODFW will provide equipment for the event including rods, reels and bait on a first-come, first-

served basis. Anglers are also welcome to bring their own gear. Angling education instructors and volunteers will be present to answer questions and offer assistance. Approximately 6,000 trout will be released into the pond just prior to the event to improve everybody's chances of catching fish.

"This is an excellent opportunity for all to discover

fishing, or for those haven't fished for a while to reacquaint themselves with this activity," Ron Rehn, fishing event coordinator for ODFW's North Coast Watershed, said. "We'll have plenty of experienced anglers at the event to answer any questions and help with instruction."

Anglers 13 years old and younger do not need a fish-

ing license, while those 14-17 years of age will need a juvenile fishing license that can be purchased for \$9. Everybody else must have an adult fishing license or day pass. Licenses will not be sold at the event, so individuals planning to participate should obtain them ahead of time from an ODFW license agent, ODFW field office or online at www.odfw.com

Ambulance Advisory Committee seeks applicants

Clatsop County's Ambulance Service Advisory Committee is accepting applications to fill three vacancies on the committee.

The vacancies are for two seats for citizen members and one seat reserved for a registered nurse. The terms of all three positions run through Nov. 30, 2016. The county encourages applications from residents of

South Clatsop County.

The committee monitors and reviews local emergency medical services in accordance with the county Ambulance Service Plan. In addition, it gathers information from service users, providers and the medical community, monitors coordination of service resources and dispatch procedures and reviews service area boundaries. The committee

meets four times per year.

Application forms are available online at www.co.clatsop.or.us or at the County Manager's Office

at 800 Exchange St., Suite 410, Astoria.

Appointments will be made by the Board of Commissioners.

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Clatsop County Tsunami Hazard Overlay Project OPEN HOUSE MEETINGS.

Join Us For Information about the THO Project.
Resources available to help you prepare for a Cascadia event tsunami.
Information on how you can assist your community.

The overall goal of the project is the development of comprehensive plan and development code provisions for the unincorporated areas of the county, through a public involvement process, to increase resilience to a Cascadia event tsunami.

For more information, contact Clatsop County Community Development at 503-325-8611 or email: comdev@co.clatsop.or.us

CLATSOP PLAINS Monday, May 4 5:30-7:30 PM
Gearhart RFPD-Hertig Station
33496 West Lake Lane, Warrenton, OR. 97146

NORTH COUNTY Tuesday, May 5 5:30-7:30 PM
Judge Guy Boyington Bldg.
857 Commercial Street, Astoria, OR. 97103

SOUTH COUNTY Thursday, May 7 5:30-7:30 PM
Arch Cape Fire Hall
79729 Highway 101, Arch Cape, OR. 97102

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