



R.J. Marx/The Daily Astorian

Seaside High School Student Body President Taylor Barnes addresses the Veterans Day gathering at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center.

On Veterans Day, a student looks to his role models

Seaside honors those who served

By KATHERINE LACAZE and R.J. MARX
EO Media Group

SEASIDE — Seaside High School Student Body President Taylor Barnes made a moving demonstration of patriotism and respect for our nation's veterans Wednesday. "Never before have I given a speech with so much weight and meaning," Barnes said at the Seaside Downtown Development Association Veterans Day program at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center. "That is why I am honored to be speaking on behalf of the people I've always looked up to as role models."

Barnes intends to enter the U.S. Naval Academy next fall. "Veterans, like the ones that stand before me today, have influenced me so that it has inspired me to follow in the footsteps of these men and women who have so bravely done so before me," Barnes said. "What you veterans have done and continue to do inspires me to give my

everything in everything I do. You are the most outstanding citizens America has to offer. I hope someday I can inspire people the same way you inspire me."

Several hundred veterans, their families and area residents filled the convention center's lobby. The Rev. David Sweeney of Calvary Episcopal Church, provided the invocation, followed by words from veterans Master Sgt. John Gates and Gunnery Sgt. Lou Neubecker.

Then, the audience stood and saluted as Scout Pack 540 raised the flag outside the center and Miss Clatsop County Alexis Mather sang the National Anthem.

On Monday night, the Seaside City Council issued a proclamation paying tribute to the "men and women who have risked their lives to preserve the liberty of our nation, the families who support them, and the heroes no longer with us."

"Whether active duty, reserve or National Guard, they are our nation's finest citizens, and they have shown the heights to which Americans can rise when asked and inspired to do so," wrote Mayor Don Larson.

'History and Hops' educates with frosty pints of craft beer

By KATHERINE LACAZE
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SEASIDE — The Seaside Aquarium's storied past — from indoor saltwater swimming pool to marine life showcase — was presented by General Manager Keith Chandler during the inaugural History and Hops event last month at Seaside Brewing Co.

About 25 attendees enjoyed an evening of food, drinks and a history lesson about one of Seaside's well-known landmarks.

The Seaside Museum and Historical Society is partnering with Seaside Brewing for the event series, which will feature a new speaker each month discussing a topic related to the history of Seaside or the Oregon North Coast, said Steve Wright, museum board president. The event always will take place at the brewpub.

"This is a public house, and this is what you do at public houses," said Jimmy Griffin, co-owner of Seaside Brewing. "It's supposed to be a place where people can treat it like their living room."

A program provided by McMenamins in Portland, called History Pubs, gave Wright the idea for introducing a similar program in the Seaside area. Some people still do not know Seaside has a museum or have not visited it.

"I'm trying to change that," Wright said. "Things like this, I think, will help."

Seaside Brewing Co. was a natural partner because the facility is brimming with history, which the owners highlight. Wright said that might be a topic one night, and he is open to other topic ideas, as well.

The partners are working to create a schedule that fits around other events taking place in town, such as large conferences, holidays or important meetings. The initial idea is for History and Hops nights to be during the last week of each month. The event likely will run through



Katherine Lacaze/EO Media Group

General Manager Keith Chandler gave a presentation the history of the Seaside Aquarium, which used to be a natatorium, during the first History and Hops night at Seaside Brewing Co.'s brewpub Oct. 29. The monthly program is a collaboration between the brewing company and the Seaside Museum and Historical Society.

the winter months when Seaside generally has slowed down, Wright said.

From Seaside Baths to aquarium

The building that now houses the aquarium opened as Seaside Baths, a natatorium, in August 1924, and it offered warm saltwater swimming. Arthur and Lillian Viggars were the original owners. It was one of two natatoriums in town; the other, the Oates Natatorium, was located by the Turnaround, Chandler said.

Because of Great Depression struggles, Seaside Baths closed in 1931, and John Oates, the owner of the Oates Natatorium, purchased the facility and leased the space.

On May 25, 1937, the Seaside Aquarium opened. However, Chandler attributes its origin to a much earlier endeavor: the Depoe Bay Aquarium, which was built in the mid-1920s as the first privately opened aquarium in the United States.

Although it had a new pur-

pose, the aquarium exhibited remnants of its old use. A fountain that sat in the pool was replaced with a fish tank in the middle of the aquarium. The seal tanks used to be old wading pools. Only recently, a chimney from the boiler room used to heat the pool was removed.

When the aquarium first opened, it had 19 tanks and no seals. By August of the next year, the aquarium had 35 tanks and housed its first seal pup. The seals are now an integral part of the aquarium and its advertising.

The first harbor seal pup allegedly born in captivity was Tubby Jr. He was born at the Seaside Aquarium in 1952, the son of the first seal housed at the aquarium, Tubby. Sixty-two years later, on the aquarium's 77th anniversary, the seal family's newest addition was born. Casey is now more than a year old.

The aquarium building has served as home to other mammals throughout time. In 1938, Oates leased the upstairs to Cyril Relton, who put in the Sea Wa-

ter Apartments. They were rented until 1970. The space now is used for storage by the aquarium and various other businesses and organizations.

The aquarium also has and still does house whales of various shapes and sizes. The first was a beluga whale, who arrived at the aquarium in 1967. Then, in 1988, Sea World donated a fiberglass orca replica that hung out front by the aquarium's entryway. Lastly, a final whale — or rather the skeleton of a 36-foot gray whale — arrived in 1998. The artifact used to sit at Fort Stevens. With the permission of federal, state and local government, the aquarium purchased the whale skeleton and put it on display. It was "the start of a great collection," Chandler said. Over time, the aquarium added skeletons from a harbor seal and a harbor porpoise, as well as skulls from three different pinniped species found along the coast.

In the early 1990s, the aquarium also added its Discovery Center, which features two touch tanks, microscopes and a staff member to answer questions. A few years later, in 1995, the aquarium started its Beach Discovery Program on the weekends in July and August. The educational program took the learning experience out to the beach.

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I Am Thankful
This is the time of year when we reflect on our lives and our blessings

There are many that list something they are thankful for each day in November on social media.

On Thanksgiving Day, The Daily Astorian will dedicate a full page in our classified section to the community, allowing a time to share something you are thankful for.

There is a 20 word maximum for each submission. This allows more people to participate.

How to participate:
email your "I am thankful" to- hlarkins@dailyastorian.com
or mail to- The Daily Astorian, P.O. Box 210, Astoria, OR 97103,
Attn: Holly Larkins **Deadline: November 20th at 5pm.**