

Grants available for entrepreneur incubators

The Daily Astorian

Business Oregon is offering development grants to nonprofit and public agencies helping rural entrepreneurs.

Applicants must be implementing at least one program to assist in the growth and development of rural entrepreneurs. The grants can pay for services the applicant provides to entrepreneurs, including:

- Establish and coordinate mentorship assistance.
- Assistance to identify and access venture and angel investors.
- Coaching and other assistance to refine and sharpen an entrepreneur's presentation to potential investors.
- Hold educational classes

or other events.

• Provide or connect entrepreneurs with professional coaching and expertise, technical information and preparedness to attract equity and debt capital (e.g., business plan development, budgeting, licensing, product development)

Entrepreneurs means a company with fewer than 10 employees that has been in business less than two years. They can manufacture products, add value to a natural resource. They produce a product that is or has the potential to be in markets where there is national or international competition.

Grant amounts will range between \$50,000 and \$150,000. The deadline for

application is Dec. 18, and final awardees will be announced in February. Applications can be submitted in PDF form to business.oregon@oregon.gov, with a total email size of less than 10 megabytes.

For a complete list of requirements and to view the application, visit <http://tinyurl.com/oonvd33>. For more information, contact Heather Stafford, assistant director of innovation and entrepreneurship for Business Oregon, at 503-229-5116.

Background

In January, Business Oregon adopted a "Grow Our Own" strategy with a strong focus on innovation and entrepreneurship, understand-

ing that more than 70 percent of new job creation comes from companies that already call Oregon home.

The Oregon Growth Board, Business Oregon and the governor's office are leading the creation and management of a Rural Entrepreneurship Development initiative to stimulate and support the growth of entrepreneurs in rural parts of Oregon.

The results of the grants will be included in a report to the Oregon Legislature. Grant recipients will be showcased the middle of next year to share best practices, discuss challenges and provide information on additional resources available to the startup companies as they continue to grow and mature.

Providence Seaside selects new CEO

Sawa has been running Ocean Beach Hospital

The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE. — Kendall Sawa, RN, has been named chief executive for Providence Seaside Hospital and North Coast Service Area.

Sawa brings nearly two decades of experience in health care to his new position.

He knows the coastal communities well, serving for the past three years as chief executive officer for the Ocean Beach Hospital and Medical Clinics in Ilwaco, Wash.

Prior to coming to the Long Beach Peninsula, Sawa worked for 15 years at PeaceHealth Ketchikan Medical Center in Alaska, beginning as a staff nurse, and moving into leadership roles as a house supervisor, cardiac coordinator, nurse manager, director of acute care services and regional vice president for patient care services for the last five years. He was also interim chief executive of Wrangell Medical Center in Alaska for four months



Kendall Sawa

before taking the Ocean Beach position.

"His leadership and clinical experiences will help us advance all aspects of our ministry on the north coast," said Janice Burger, chief executive for Providence in Western Oregon. "He is an established executive leader on the coast and understands the complexities of critical access hospitals and the health care needs of the communities."

"I've admired the great work being done at Providence Seaside and across the north coast to build healthier communities together, and I look forward to joining the team" Sawa said.

He will start his role in Seaside on Jan. 11.



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

Bornstein and Da Yang seafood companies are competing to get into the recently vacated Oregon State Police Building.

Port: 'I would say we're in store for a radically changing waterfront in the next two years'

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is largely because of timing on the projects. The Port, for instance, is still trying to find a paving contractor for the Astoria Regional Airport, where it received \$5 million in Federal Aviation Administration grant money to resurface a runway.

Lastly, the majority of payments on the principal and interest of the Port's debt, which still totals more than \$10 million, come due in December, meaning their expenses will largely hit the Port's bottom line during this fiscal quarter.

Promise and challenges

Despite the strong initial performance, Knight cautioned the Port has a lot of expenses coming its way. The Port is trying to fix a crumbling infrastructure, dredge its vast waterfront holdings, clean up historical petroleum spills, develop a Portwide stormwater treatment system and switch healthcare carriers amid rising costs. In the courtroom, its counsel is litigating cases with former employees

and a spurned suitor for the Astoria Riverwalk Inn.

Despite the challenges, Knight said, there is a lot of outside interest in the Port.

"I would say we're in store for a radically changing waterfront in the next two years," he said.

Several suitors are trying to lease the Astoria Riverwalk Inn long-term. The Port recently leased a strip of land just west of the Astoria Bridge to Hollander Hospitality, which is exploring the feasibility of a Marriott hotel there.

Bornstein and Da Yang seafood companies are expanding into recently vacated spaces in the Port's Pier 2 warehouse, while competing to get into the recently vacated Oregon State Police building.

"I look at the Port like a farmer that's just gone through five years of drought," Port Commissioner James Campbell said, sharing his frustration about how land-poor the Port is.

Drought assistance

When deciding whether to support the Port in repairing its infrastructure, Knight said,

the public will gauge the Port on the consistency of its budget performance and how well the staff and the Port of Astoria Commission works as a team.

"We need to show consistency in our budget performance, and a year out, we need to look at going out for a bond."

The Port is preparing a proposal for the Oregon Department of Transportation's Connect Oregon VI infrastructure grant, seeking money to repair the deteriorating west side of Pier 2, where boats pull up to the dilapidated dock to deliver seafood to processors. It is also preparing to repair a dilapidated runway at the Astoria Regional Airport, with the help of a Federal Aviation Administration grant.

Much of the battle for support, budget committee members and Port commissioners said Tuesday, is about public relations. Knight said he is getting help on that front from Daily Astorian Publisher Steve Forrester, who he said has offered to help publish a quarterly newsletter about the Port's performance.

"Our story is not being ad-

equately told," said Budget Committee Chairman John Lansing, echoing the sentiments of other budget committee members and Port commissioners who say the Port isn't getting the credit it is due for its low tax burden and large economic impact.

The Port collects about \$669,000 a year in property taxes, through a minimum taxing rate of 12.56 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value, from the entire county, and another \$150,000 from timber taxes, according to its budget. Budget members noted the amount is exponentially lower than any city or the county.

A recent analysis by the Infrastructure Finance Authority, which extends the Port financing for capital projects, found the agency supports more than 50 port-related businesses that provide more than 1,800 jobs in Clatsop County — more than 2,000 jobs if Pacific Coast Seafoods' temporary relocation to North Tongue Point is included. The analysis said labor income tops \$93 million a year.

Orthopedic surgeon Brooke Benz joins Providence Seaside

The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — Providence is expanding health care services by offering full-time orthopedic specialty care. Dr. Brooke Benz, orthopedic surgeon, began seeing patients in October at Providence Medical Group-Seaside.

Benz received his medical degree at the Oregon Health & Sciences University and completed his residency and internship at Maricopa County Medical Center in Phoenix. This was followed by a teaching fellowship at OHSU in trauma and children's joint replacement.

Benz' decades of medical experience includes replacing thousands of knee, hip and shoulder joints at four different medical centers in the Portland area, working in emergency trauma surgery for 23 years, and as a sports physician for 25 years at Jesuit High School in Beaverton. Not a newcomer to the North Coast, Benz has been a visiting surgeon with Providence Seaside Hospital for the past 27 years.

"My philosophy of care is emphasis on patient in-



Submitted Photo

Dr. Brooke Benz, an orthopedic surgeon, left private practice in Portland to join Providence Seaside.

volvement and education," Benz said. "I make every effort to be well-prepared and educated about each patient and their medical problem."

Benz is board certified in orthopedic surgery with a subspecialty in sports medicine. He is fluent in Spanish and studies German, French and Italian languages.

Providence Medical Group-Seaside is located at Providence Seaside Hospital, 725 S. Wahanna Road. For information, call 503-717-7060.

Visit us online at DailyAstorian.com



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.

- Oregon Fruit Butters & Jams
- Candies & Nuts
- Soaps & Lotions
- Unique Christmas Ornaments
- Local Art & Gifts
- Gift packs: ours or create your own

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