

# THE DAILY ASTORIAN



Photos by Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

Seaside's Payton Westerholm, center, celebrates a state championship win with his team and other students on Saturday in Forest Grove. Seaside defeated Valley Catholic, 71-63.

## STATE CHAMPS!

### Gulls bring home first state hoops trophy



Seaside Seagulls' Attikin Babb takes a shot during the first half in the 4A state championship game on Saturday.

By GARY HENLEY  
The Daily Astorian

**F**OREST GROVE — Small in stature, big in heart. And pretty good in quickness, defense, passing, ball-handling, speed, shooting ability, etc. Add it all up, and it equaled an unbeatable combination for the Seaside High School boys basketball program, over the course of the 2016-17 season. And ultimately, it gave the Gulls' their first-ever state championship. With their 71-63 win over Valley Catholic at Forest Grove High School late Saturday night, the Gulls indeed made school history, as they returned home with the town's first state championship in boys basketball. Was there ever a doubt?

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#### LADY GULLS TAKE THIRD

Seaside girls make history of their own. See story on Sports • Page 10A



Seaside's Jackson Januik goes up for a shot against Valley Catholic in the 4A state championship game on Saturday.

### Garhofer: From princess to queen

Miss Clatsop County crowned

By R.J. MARX  
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — "Oh my goodness!" Hannah Garhofer said after being crowned Miss Clatsop County. "So many emotions right now! I'm thankful for this opportunity to serve Clatsop County, because it truly takes a village to raise a child. And they have raised me for the past 20 years."

Garhofer was one of three young women awarded the Miss Clatsop County Scholarship Program's top honors

Saturday night at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center. Winners receive scholarship awards while serving as ambassadors to the community.

Nicole Ramsdell, 15, of Astoria was selected Miss North Coast's Outstanding Teen. She attends Astoria High School.

Peyton Sims was named Miss Clatsop County's Outstanding Teen. Sims, 13, is an eighth-grader at Broadway Middle School in Seaside.

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R.J. Marx/The Daily Astorian

Miss North Coast Teen Nicole Ramsdell, Miss Clatsop County Princess Taylor Betts, Miss Clatsop County Teen Peyton Sims and Miss Clatsop County Hannah Garhofer.

### New cutter makes a stop in Astoria

Named for man involved in daring rescue

By JACK HEFFERNAN  
The Daily Astorian

Nearly 80 years after and roughly 2 miles east of the site of her grandfather's daring rescue mission, Linda Jarmer could have been mistaken for a U.S. Coast Guard crew member herself.

A motor lifeboat glided east along the Columbia River on Saturday morning next to the soon-to-be commissioned John F. McCormick Sentinel-class cutter. While the vessels were still in motion, Jarmer, whose grandfather was the boat's namesake, took a wide step from the lifeboat onto the cutter while dressed in a large, orange dry suit.

Jarmer made her way to the top deck to meet the 24 crew members on board. "It's only right you came aboard

the John F. McCormick that way," Lt. j.g. Joe Petty said.

The 154-foot fast response cutter left Key West, Florida, five weeks ago and will dock at its home port in Ketchikan, Alaska, next week. There, a commissioning ceremony will take place in April. Another cutter, the Bailey T. Barco, will be commissioned there in June.

Following the ceremony, the cutter will begin sea rescue and commercial fishing enforcement missions.

#### Two may dock here

The John F. McCormick is one of 21 Sentinel-class cutters — the first on the West Coast — that have been put to use by the Coast Guard. Out of the 58 planned cutters, two may be docked in Astoria.

The newest cutter was at the 17th Street Dock the past two days and will leave for its final destination today. The public was invited to tour the ship Sunday.

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### Gearhart firefighter, 55 years and counting

Blissett has seen tragedy, enjoyed friends



GEARHART — Jon Blissett joined the Gearhart Volunteer Fire Department in 1962, and today is the department's oldest active member.

Blissett looks back at 55 years of firefighting and the changes he's seen in the community.

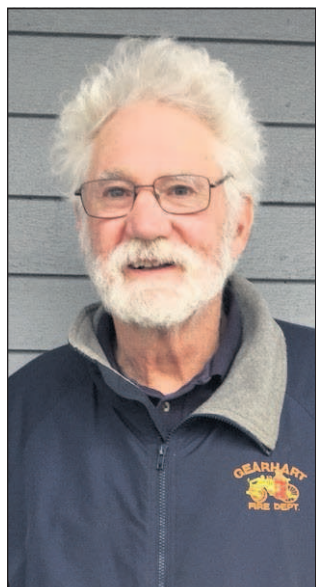
Q: How old are you?

I'll be 80 this time next year. I feel great.

Q: Tell me about your background in Gearhart.

I owned the Chevron gas station in Gearhart right next to the fire station. Then the DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) got into the situation with the tanks. They were

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R.J. Marx/The Daily Astorian

Jon Blissett has served with the Gearhart Volunteer Fire Department for 55 years.



Petty Officer 1st Class Levi Read

Coast Guard cutter John F. McCormick transits up the Columbia River next to the 52-foot motor lifeboat Triumph II.

