

# Exchange students from Brazil and Norway in Seaside



R.J. Marx/The Daily Astorian  
**Fernanda Vasconcellos of Brazil, Seaside's Sam Thornton, Mathilda Gunleiksrud of Norway, and Arthur Brugneratto Prada of Brazil are participants in the school district's foreign exchange program.**

## New school, new language, new customs

By R.J. MARX  
*The Daily Astorian*

SEASIDE — Among the 461 students enrolled at Seaside High School this year are three exchange students from overseas.

Arthur Brugneratto Prada and Fernanda Vasconcellos, both of Brazil, and Mathilda Gunleiksrud of Norway appeared with returning exchange student Sam Thornton at the school district's board of directors meeting Tuesday night.

"I'm really enjoying my time down here," Vasconcellos said. "Last weekend

I went to my first football game. I couldn't understand what was going on, but it was fun."

Gunleiksrud, of Dolmen, Norway, will be living with her host family for the year. So far she's traveled to Cannon Beach, Nehalem and Portland, and will be visiting Boston in November. She plans on participating in the drama club's fall play. She likes her host family's home cooking and the availability of local takeout food.

Brugneratto Prada, a senior, said he liked the electives at the high school. The most fun he's had in the U.S. was at a wedding in the California redwoods. "It was really cold," he said, before adding, "Every day here is really cold."

He plans on joining the

wrestling team and participating in the Key Club.

## New friends, new dreams

The exchange program has a long history at Seaside High School, said Natalie Osburn, the school's assistant principal. Students typically take their exchange period during their junior year because they want to spend their senior year with peers.

Thornton returned from a year in Mexico. "I went in with no Spanish at all," she said.

Thornton lived with two host families and developed her language skills by speaking Spanish every day. "I really connected with them," she said. "I met some of the best friends of my entire life."

Shayla Tsuji, a senior from Seaside who went to Brazil

last year as an exchange student, was not at the school district meeting, but in a letter read by Osburn, said the experience brought "not only new friends, but new dreams."

"I am still in contact with many of my friends from the trip," Tsuji wrote. "I left an average high school student, and came home with a Brazilian heart."

Osburn said she expects this year's visitors to Seaside to fit right in. "I'll check in two or three times formally to see how they're doing," she said. "But the students at Seaside are so wonderfully inclusive and are so excited to hear from students from around the world, that they really get involved in activities and have the opportunity to get to know different cultures without traveling themselves."

## 'Most wanted' fugitive arrested near Raymond

By NATALIE ST. JOHN  
*EO Media Group*

SOUTH BEND, Wash. — Pacific County Sheriff's deputies arrested a kidnapping suspect Monday who had been on the FBI's Most Wanted Fugitives list for almost three years.

In fall 2014, Berks County, Pennsylvania, resident Maria Evelia Cabrera-Gutierrez, 46, was in a custody battle with ex-boyfriend Guy Markus over their 2-year-old son, Daniel. According to a news release from Pennsylvania Crime Watch, "the court proceedings did not appear to be going in her favor."

On Nov. 14, 2014, Markus

arrived home to discover that Cabrera-Gutierrez had fled with Daniel and her older son from a previous relationship. She left behind a note that said, "When I find legal help, I'll contact you."

Police learned that she took the children to Texas in violation of the custody order for Daniel. She stayed with family members and in hotels in San Antonio and Austin before police lost track of her. Investigators suspected she was headed for Mexico, where she was born.



Maria Evelia Cabrera-Gutierrez

Cabrera-Gutierrez was charged with interference with custody of children and concealment of the whereabouts of a child in Berks County. A state warrant was issued for her arrest. She was also charged in federal court with unlawful flight to avoid prosecution, and a federal warrant was issued for her arrest.

On Monday, FBI agents contacted the Raymond Police Department, saying they believed Cabrera-Gutierrez was staying at a home on South Fork Road, outside of

Raymond. The Pacific County Sheriff's Office took over from there, because the home is in the county's jurisdiction, Chief Criminal Deputy Pat Matlock said.

"One tip said she was living in that area under an assumed name with her two boys," Matlock said. He and Lt. Jim Bergstrom spoke with detectives in Pennsylvania, met with Raymond Police Chief Chuck Spoor, then went to the home.

Daniel's story received wide media attention in Pennsylvania. He was found one day after a segment about his kidnapping aired on the CNN television show, "The Hunt With John Walsh."

## County unemployment creeps up in August

*The Daily Astorian*

Seasonally adjusted unemployment in Clatsop County rose above 4 percent in August, according to the state Employment Department.

Unemployment, which reached its lowest realistic level over the summer, has slowly crept up over the past few months, at 3.8 percent in July and 4.1 percent in August. Last month's unemployment rate was still nearly 1 percent lower from the year prior, matched the statewide figure and was lower than the national rate at 4.4 percent.

A loss of 150 jobs in the county was expected for the month, but the county only shed 70. That left total non-farm payroll employment at 18,170, 10 higher than the year prior.

The private sector cut 60 jobs in August, and government employment fell by 10. Food services and drinking places gained 40



Area	Aug. 2017	July 2017	1-yr. ago
Clatsop	4.1	3.8	5
Columbia	5.2	4.8	6.3
Tillamook	4.3	4.1	5.1
Oregon	4.1	3.8	5
U.S.	4.4	4.3	4.9

\*Preliminary, seasonally adjusted rates. Source: Oregon Employment Department

Daily Astorian graphic

## Body of hiker who fell in Oswald West recovered

*The Daily Astorian*

The body of Joseph Lescene, who fell to his death off a cliff in Oswald West State Park Sept. 10, was recovered Tuesday at Short Sands Beach.

Oregon State Police received a report Tues-

day morning of a deceased man washed up on the beach. The state police and Nehalem Bay Fire & Rescue responded and located the body, which was positively identified as Lescene. The Tillamook County Medical Examiner assisted with the investigation.

Lescene, 51, of British Columbia, was hiking with his wife near Devil's Cauldron when he reportedly lost his footing and fell 800 feet to the water below. No foul play is suspected.

Nehalem Bay Fire & Rescue recovered the backpack he was wearing in the water

below the cliff. The Coast Guard searched with lifeboats and a helicopter but was unable to find his body.

A GoFundMe account was set up by family friend Nancy Sheppard at <http://tinyurl.com/4JoesFamily> to help his wife, Sarah, and two daughters, Ofelia and Sofia.

## Recycling the topic of Fort George lecture

*The Daily Astorian*

Astoria residents are juggling multiple garbage bins following the rollout of a new curbside pickup program that added glass and compost earlier this month.

But organizers of an event Thursday night at Fort George Brewery and Public House want to help people make better use of the options available to them now, send less material to the landfill and maybe save money on their garbage bill.

The "Waste Zero Workshop," led by Renee Johnson, sustainability director at Fort George, and Recology repre-

sentatives, will kick off the Fort George's popular Thursday lecture series for this season.

Adding the compost and glass curbside pickup services added several dollars to everyone's monthly garbage bill when the Astoria City Council voted 3-2 in June to approve these changes. Though people can opt out of having the extra bins, they

still pay the increased fee.

"We want to help people find a way to make it work for them," Johnson said about the workshop. Also, she added, recycling "is not always as intuitive as people think it is." There are some "do's" and "don'ts" that may be surprising or confusing.

The free lecture will be held at 7 p.m. in Fort George's Lovell Showroom.

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Jennifer Lycette, MD  
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