

Drill: Weather led to cancellation of tsunami evacuation route walk

Continued from Page 1A

dived under and clutched on as the warning announcement came over the loudspeaker. Seaside School District is one of 580,000 organizations registered for the 2017 Great Oregon ShakeOut, a worldwide event that encourages participants to practice earthquake preparedness techniques.

This is the second year schools in Seaside — vulnerable to the Cascadia Subduction Zone — have performed the drill. Like last year, the drill was also supposed to be paired with a tsunami evacuation route walk, but was canceled due to safety concerns associated with rainy weather and high wind warnings.

“As one of the four schools in Oregon within the inundation zone, it is critical to be prepared. Failing to prepare is preparing for failure,” Seaside High School Principal Jeff Roberts said. “While we hope there’s not an event like this, we want to know students can respond appropriately.”

One of the main concerns in Seaside is whether certain roads and bridges that lead people to higher ground will be intact in the event of a major earthquake and tsunami. But from Roberts’ point of view, the school district is doing all



Students at Seaside High School crawl under a table on Thursday during the annual Great ShakeOut earthquake drill.

that it can be prepared.

“We can’t change infrastructure issues. We can’t rebuild bridges. All we can do is educate and prepare our kids to know how to respond,” he said. “The best thing we can do is move the kids out of danger to the new school site, which doesn’t change how we prepare, but is overall a better plan.”

For Kruger, knowing a new school campus out of the

inundation zone is on its way is a major source of relief as a teacher.

“We are prepared, but no matter what we do it is going to be chaotic getting that many kids to safety,” she said.

Kruger has taught for Seaside School District since 2003. She said a day hasn’t passed where she hasn’t considered how a seismic event would affect her and her two daughters.

When she goes to bed, she takes mental notes of where she leaves her glasses and her shoes in case she needs to evacuate in the middle of the night. She thinks about how she would connect with her daughters if a disaster happened while they were separated.

“Thinking about these things is half the reason I run — to prepare,” she said, laughing.

When Kruger is teaching



Students at Seaside High School watch a presentation about earthquake safety guidelines.

her students how to prepare for a seismic event, she thinks of her own children and what she would want them to know.

“All of these kids are someone else’s beloved child,” Kruger said. “I just hope to communicate what they need to know to be safe.”

The drill itself was relatively lighthearted in the classroom. Students giggled to fill the silence as they had to scrunch together under their small tables.

But Kruger said her students know what is at stake.

“There was a lot of discussion about disasters when the school was trying to pass a bond for the new campus,” Kruger said. “Some students came out of that as a little fatalistic — if it’s going to happen, it’s going to happen. But there’s another strand, like the ASB (Associated Student Body) students who really energized the effort to do this drill. A lot of them were thinking of their younger siblings at school in the inundation zone. They were thinking about keeping them safe.”

Schools: Goal is around 10 percent

Continued from Page 1A

“I think we need to get ourselves around 10 percent,” Hoppes said of his goal for the district’s chronic absenteeism.

At a school board meeting Nov. 8, he said, administrators from each school will discuss strategies used to improve attendance. Hoppes will talk about the attendance policies of other school districts.

Statewide, the number of chronically absent students has continually crept up

from 17.4 percent a few years ago to nearly 20 percent last school year.

The state is implementing a chronic absenteeism plan, including \$7.4 million invested in the two-year budget by the Legislature to improve attendance and graduation rates.

The Legislature has also invested \$170 million in Measure 98, passed by voters last year to expand dual-credit and career-technical courses and dropout prevention in high school.

“We know that students

who attend school regularly have more opportunity to learn, so tracking chronic absenteeism is critical,” said acting state Deputy Superintendent Colt Gill in a statement. “There is a direct link between high instances of chronic absenteeism and low graduation rates. This is why chronic absenteeism is one of our school accountability measures in our Oregon Plan for the Every Student Succeeds Act and why Gov. (Kate) Brown and the Legislature have invested in programs to address the issue.”

Dogs: Stars on Instagram visited pool

Continued from Page 1A

Emma Starr stood with 4-month-old puppy Drake, getting a quick towel dry between swims. “He’s a little hesitant, but he likes it,” Starr said.

Paul and Stephanie Buffington brought Jamie, a goldendoodle, and Ginger, a golden retriever puppy. The dogs skillfully navigated the deep end taking turns gracefully balancing a jolly ball. “We had a pool when we lived in California so they love the water,” Paul Buffington said.

The Buffingtons, recent



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian
Several dozen dogs and their owners showed up at the Sunset Empire Recreational Center in Seaside on Thursday for the dog swim event.

arrivals to Gearhart, have an Instagram account with nearly 57,000 followers. Their dogs are the stars.

“We do a lot of their story

and their interaction with people,” Buffington said. “When we saw what was going on, we wanted to be down here.”

Lifeguard Amanda Browning stood watch over the just slightly controlled chaos.

“Right now, I am mainly keeping an eye on the humans,” Browning said. “When they’re in the water with the animals, sometimes the animals get scared and climb on top of them.”

Any special training need to lifeguard for a doggy swim? “Just common sense,” she said. “Do my thing.”

ASTORIA FORD

TRUCKTOBER FEST

2017 FORD EDGE SEL

2.0 Liter EcoBoost Engine, All-Wheel Drive, SEL Trim

MSRP	\$34,470
Astoria Ford Discount.....	-\$2,470
Retail Customer Cash	-\$2,000
Matching Down Payment.....	-\$1,500
FMCC Bonus Cash.....	-\$1,000

Sale Price \$27,500*

SAVE \$6,970 OFF MSRP

STOCK #N217392
VIN #HBC27344

ASTORIA FORD'S TRUCK AND SUV MONTHLONG SALE!

2017 FORD F-150 XLT

CREW CAB 4x4

5.0 Liter V8 Engine, 302A Equipment Group, 4WD Automatic Transmission

MSRP	\$47,110
Astoria Ford Discount.....	-\$3,613
Retail Customer Cash	-\$3,750
Matching Down Payment.....	-\$1,000
Retail Trade Assist.....	-\$2,250

Sale Price \$37,497

SAVE \$9,613 OFF MSRP

STOCK #N217472
VIN #HKE22404

2017 FORD ESCAPE

2.5 Liter I-VCT Engine, 6 Speed Automatic Transmission, 100A Equipment Group, 17in Sparkle Alloy Wheels

MSRP	\$25,240
Astoria Ford Discount.....	-\$1,250
Retail Customer Cash	-\$2,000
Retail Bonus Cash.....	-\$1,000
Matching Down Payment.....	-\$1,000

Sale Price \$19,990*

SAVE \$5,250 OFF MSRP

STOCK #2177491
VIN #HJF09118

*FMCC financing and retail bonus cash require FMCC financing on approval of credit

1809 SE Ensign Lane • Warrenton

Sale runs through October 31st, 2017 **CHECK BACK FOR WEEKLY SPECIALS**

888.760.9303 | www.AstoriaFord.com