

SEASIDE

Candidates focus on disaster preparedness

By R.J. MARX
The Astorian

SEASIDE — Candidates vying for the Ward 4 seat on the City Council are focusing on emergency preparedness, housing, transportation and tourism.

David Posalski, Kathy Kleczek and Adam Wood are competing for the vacancy left by City Councilor Seth Morrisey, who did not file for reelection.

Posalski's priorities are to support emergency responders, ensure transportation safety and reduce the effect of tourism on livability in neighborhoods. He wants to see the S. Holladay Drive corridor revitalized to improve living conditions, provide work and draw people off of U.S. Highway 101.

"My desire is to continue serving our community through the City Council as your commissioner for Ward 4," Posalski said. "I hope to be an open ear and your voice on the council as I serve our entire community."

Posalski served six years on the Seaside Chamber of Commerce board and Seaside Transportation Advisory Commission and three years on the Planning Commission.

He moved to Seaside in 2010 and opened Tsunami Sandwich Co.



Kathy Kleczek



David Posalski



Adam Wood

"The opportunities provided by Seaside have blossomed into five local businesses for us," Posalski said. His businesses employ over 50 people on the North Coast.

Kleczek's priorities are disaster readiness and expanding health systems and services.

"It is time to develop disaster readiness plans that become part of the community's collective conscience and include our Latinx neighbors in the conversation," she said.

Kleczek is the former chairwoman of the Sunset Empire Transportation District board and the representative for the district on Northwest Transportation Options. She also serves on the Special Districts Association of Oregon's board.

She established and runs

her own business, La Luna Loca, in Cannon Beach, with originally designed, colorful clothing.

"The common thread between the business and the public service is that I could do something that was helping improve life for real people," Kleczek said. "Being of service and contributing positively is the way I operate. It is what drives me forward. It is the reason behind my running for office as a Seaside city councilor."

Wood's priorities are community engagement, long-term housing and emergency preparedness, "to make sure we have plans in place to protect the community from anything from a tsunami to a pandemic or anything else that may arise."

He said he would seek to find a reasonable capacity on vacation rentals. He wants to work with developers to help them build four-to 12-unit complexes so that people who work in Seaside can afford to live in the community.

A Bandon native, Wood is an assistant golf professional at the Highlands Golf Club in Gearhart.

"I am running so that I can make sure that every voice in the community is heard and listened to, and that we make common-sense decisions for the city now and into the future," he said.

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WBH Executive Team Issues Statement on the Arrest of Employee Paul Clark



Willapa Behavioral Health (WBH) confirms that we have placed Paul Clark on administrative leave immediately following his arrest on October 1st, 2020, for child sexual exploitation crimes under the Revised Code of Washington (RCW). Mr. Clark was a Wraparound with Intensive Services (WISe) manager. He worked out of our Montesano, WA location while overseeing our WISe teams in northern Pacific County and Grays Harbor County. Since employed at WBH, Mr. Clark served primarily as a clinical services manager; he did not provide direct services to children. To date, law enforcement officials have not provided information to WBH, nor have they sought information from WBH about the circumstances surrounding Mr. Clark's arrest. Currently, there are no indications that any of the alleged crimes involve clients under WBH's care. However, we are closely monitoring this situation.

Our clients' and employees' safety is vital, and we understand the importance of trusting communities. Our professional conduct standards are incredibly high. WBH runs a battery of background checks as a condition of employment. There were no previous allegations or reports of misconduct in Mr. Clark's records upon his hiring in July of 2018. WBH, working in tandem with our company's legal team, will abide by all laws and policies under the RCW, the Washington State Labor and Industries (L&I), and professional and ethical standards under the Washington Administrative Code (WAC). For the time being, we will not elaborate any further out of respect for ongoing judicial processes and the sensitive nature of Human Resources' matters internal to the organization.

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