

Young talent heating up Newmans at 988

21-year-old Shaffer promoted to sous chef at prestigious restaurant

BY M.J. CODY

It's been a meteoric ride for 21-year-old Dru Shaffer, who was recently promoted to sous chef at the prestigious Newmans at 988 restaurant in Cannon Beach.

It's not often one has the opportunity to achieve a life goal by age 21. For that matter, it's not often that one knows what direction in life to pursue at such an early age. Not so for Shaffer, who, by age 6 was in the kitchen experimenting with food.

"My mom bought me a cookbook for Christmas when I was 6 or 7," said Shaffer. "I think it was a Paula Deen cookbook. I was fascinated with the whole process. I couldn't get enough of it. Mom told me, even then, I was changing recipes."

As his interest grew, his parents recognized that it was not merely a phase he was going through. In 2017 his mother took him to Clatsop County's Iron Chef Goes

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Dru Shaffer working in the kitchen at Newmans at 988.

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