

## IN BRIEF

## Training facility complicates Seaside softball relocation

SEASIDE — The Seaside School District hopes to redevelop Broadway Field to meet the needs of softball play and provide more equity.

The field was developed in 2013 on land owned by the city, used by the school district and maintained by the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District.

But the Herche Family Training Facility, designed and developed with donations and contributions from the community, may complicate matters.

According to an agreement signed in March 2020 between the park district, the city and Seaside Kids Inc., any proposed change to usage or policies governing usage of the batting facility other than scheduling will require approval by the city, the park district and Seaside Kids.

The facility — built at a cost of \$244,000 — would have to be moved.

“You cannot pick up a pole barn and move it,” Chris Corder, the batting facility’s project manager, said. “I’ll repeat that: You cannot pick up a pole barn and move it. There are 90 yards of concrete in the floor. It just doesn’t work that easily.”

The school district’s request to develop a softball field comes in response to a complaint alleging discrimination against female athletes on the basis of sex and equality in the athletics programs at the high school.

Under an agreement with the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights, the school district has until the end of June 2023 to build the facility and provide more equity between girls and boys athletics.

The school district has investigated three sites: Broadway Field, fields on Wahanna Road, and a property north of the former high school known as the “North 40.”

The Wahanna Road site was eliminated after studies revealed wetlands and poor quality soil. The North 40 offers a central location and has been viewed favorably by the city’s parks advisory committee, but would require utilities, power and earthwork.

In April, the school board voted to revisit Broadway Field as their preferred site.

“It turns out that moving the training facility is actually a pretty reasonable idea, and accomplishes a handful of goals,” Zach Stokes, of ZCS Engineering & Architecture, has said. “From an engineering standpoint and a practicality standpoint, the Broadway Field modification appears to be a really good option for the district and for the city.”

— *The Astorian*

## DEATHS

June 15, 2022

**HARTMAN, Janice Mabel**, 83, of Warrenton, died in Warrenton. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

June 13, 2022

**KISEL, Nathan Wolfe**, 28, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

## MEMORIALS

Saturday, June 25

**BONHAM, Gregg Keith** — Celebration of life service at 2 p.m., Coastline Christian Fellowship Church, with a reception following in the fellowship hall, 89386 Oregon Highway 202.

SCHULTZ, Roger —

Celebration of life from 3 to 5 p.m., Astoria Golf & County Club, 33445 Sunset Beach Lane in Warrenton. Flowers may be sent to 2484 Neawanna St., Seaside, 97138.

## ON THE RECORD

## Assault

• **Michael Robbins Whitby**, 65, of Hillsboro, was arrested at the Cannery Pier Hotel & Spa in Astoria for fourth-degree assault constituting domestic violence. The alleged incident took place on Sunday.

## Theft

• **Hali Alexis Driggers**, 29, of Rogue River, and **Dylan James Stradford**, 34, of Milwaukie, were arrested on Sunday at Walmart in Warrenton for second-degree theft. Stradford was also charged with resisting arrest.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

## TUESDAY

**Port of Astoria Commission**, 4 p.m., 10 Pier 1, Suite 209.

**Astoria Historic Landmarks Commission**, 5:30 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

**Cannon Beach City Council**, 6 p.m., special meeting, City Hall, 163 E. Gower Ave.

**Seaside Planning Commission**, 6 p.m., work session, City Hall, 989 Broadway.

**Seaside School District Board**, 6 p.m., 2600 Spruce Drive.

## WEDNESDAY

**Clatsop County Board of Commissioners**, 6 p.m., (electronic meeting).

## THURSDAY

**Cannon Beach Planning Commission**, 6 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower Ave.

## the Astorian

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## CAMP POYER



Gary Henley/The Astorian

All eyes were on Jordan Poyer at CMH Field, where youth football players learned the basics of the game from the Buffalo Bills' All-Pro safety in Saturday's one-day camp.



Lydia Ely/The Astorian

Miss Meadowlark, Sophia Takla, was chosen Miss Oregon. She received her crown from Abigail Hayes, Miss Oregon 2021, center top, and Moira O'Bryan, Miss Oregon Outstanding Teen 2021, right.

## Miss Oregon crowned in Seaside

## Takla competed as Miss Meadowlark

By R.J. MARX  
*The Astorian*

SEASIDE — Miss Meadowlark, Sophia Takla, was crowned Miss Oregon on Saturday night at the scholarship program’s 75th annual event at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center.

Takla, a student at Boston Conservatory at Berklee College of Music, will receive a \$15,000 scholarship and represent the state at the Miss America pageant.

Takla was crowned by Abigail Hayes, Miss Oregon 2021, who was selected fourth runner-up at the Miss America pageant last December.

Evergreen teen candidate Deja Fitzwater was selected Miss Oregon Outstanding Teen, winning a \$5,000 scholarship award. The Tigard High School student will head to Dallas, Texas, for the Miss America Outstanding Teen national competition in August.

Takla edged out a field that included first runner-up Hannah Garhofer, a Seaside High School graduate representing Lane County in the



Lydia Ely/The Astorian

Deja Fitzwater walked the runway after being crowned Miss Oregon Outstanding Teen.

competition.

“I am so thrilled,” Takla said after receiving her crown. “I have grown up in this organization from the princess mentorship program as a little kid. What’s so fun is that our new teen, Deja Fitzwater, was also a princess with me. We have pictures together when we were little kids on this stage.”

Takla’s social impact statement was “Operation Joy: Bringing Happiness to Pediatric Cancer Patients.”

“During tonight’s show, over 100 children will be diagnosed with cancer,” she said. “At 6 years old, my cousin was one of them, ultimately losing his life.”

Garhofer was the recipient of the program’s first women in law scholarship. She is a graduate of the University of Oregon and will attend Willamette University College of Law.

“This program has changed my life for the better,” Garhofer said. “I began when I was 13 and I truly would not be the woman I am today without this program.”

Her social initiative platform was “Indivisible: Building Leaders for a Connected Community.”

“Our nation is hurting and

it’s time we breed unity, and it begins with our youth,” Garhofer told the panel of judges. “We need to connect again. We need to have compassion for one another and we need to rebuild our communities together.”

Lilly Boothe, of Clatskanie, represented Clatsop County. She is a student at Oregon State University majoring in speech communications. Her talent was vocal performance.

Boothe’s social impact platform was “No More Stolen Sisters: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.”

Throughout the evening, Miss Oregon’s 75-year history in Seaside was at top of mind, with photos and memorabilia from years past.

The evening’s hosts were auctioneer and performer Dale Johannes and Katie Harman Ebner, Miss Oregon 2001 and the only Miss Oregon to go on to win Miss America, in 2002.

Other Miss Oregons on the stage spanned generations from the 1970s to today.

“Tonight I’m going to just be filled with gratitude and celebrate with my sisters,” Takla said. “I want to really lift up all of the wonderful women in this class because I wouldn’t be here without them and I love them so much. They’re just so selfless and kind, and the perfect embodiment of what the modern woman is and what Miss Oregon should be.”

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