

# WHS coach competes like a beast

Call him Coach Beast.

Warrenton High School's cross-country coach, Josh Fry, placed sixth in the North American Spartan Championship Race held Sept. 25 in North Lake Tahoe, Calif.

The 13.5-mile course over rugged trail terrain gave runners a grueling elevation gain of 4,000 feet, with the highest elevation at 8,200 feet.

The event was held at the Squaw Valley Olympic Village, home of the 1960s winter Olympics.

Competitors faced 30 obstacles throughout what's called the "beast" course.

In addition to climbing and grip-style obstacles, there were rotating monkey bars, rope climbs, and a spear throw. They also had to carry 75-pound buckets of gravel up a steep incline, carry a 100-pound stone, and flip a 400-pound tire.

Fry completed the course in two hours and eight minutes.

Fry has been head coach of



Courtesy Shasia Fry

Josh Fry competes in the North American Spartan Championships.

the Warrenton High School Cross Country Team for two years, taking the team to the state championships last year, where they placed fourth overall.

Fry hopes to represent the Pacific Northwest next year,

climbing the ranks in the U.S. National Spartan Series.

Fry not only competes in Spartan races across the country, he participates in local races and is working on expanding the North Coast's running community.

## Fire-ravaged communities get funds to rebuild

More than \$1.4 million in grants is being distributed to 15 community organizations in Oregon counties ravaged by the 2020 fires.

It's the second round of funding issue by the 2020 Community Rebuilding Fund, a joint effort of Oregon Community Foundation, Meyer Memorial Trust, The Ford Family Foundation and American Red Cross.

Sixty organizations will have received a total of \$6.16 million.

"A year ago, devastating fires ripped through our forests and towns, and Oregonians responded quickly and generously," said Max Williams, chief executive of Oregon Community Foundation. "In one year, the 2020

Community Rebuilding Fund has raised and deployed millions of dollars to support fire-impacted communities throughout Oregon.

Another fire season, compounded by a new wave of the pandemic, continues to stretch already hard-hit communities across the state."

Examples of funding include \$125,000 to support an emergency operations center in Lane County; \$40,000 to the Wellness Project, a program that supports farmworkers and immigrants



A project to reconstruct a public hall was funded by the Community Rebuilding Fund.

in Jackson County; and \$101,250 to support survivors' recovery and rebuilding efforts in Santiam Canyon.

Donations to the Community Rebuilding Fund can be made at [oregoncf.org/rebuilding](http://oregoncf.org/rebuilding).

## Business and development tidbits

### Food hub is restoring Sears building

Astoria Food Hub, a cooperative aimed at helping local farmers, fishermen and other food producers get their products to consumers, is busily renovating the former Sears building in downtown Astoria.

The Food Hub was started by Nehalem River Ranch owner Jared Gardner and has grown to include farmers throughout the region.

The group raised \$700,000 to purchase the historic building earlier this year. Plans are to open in December. There will be onsite cold and dry storage, a commercial kitchen, distribution resources, a retail storefront and support resources.

The waterfront warehouse was built in 1935 and served as a location for the Portland-based Mason, Ehrman & Co. wholesale produce distribution company.

#### BUOY BEER

Buoy Beer Company is expanding, with plans to build

a new production facility and taproom adjacent to property it already occupies along the Astoria Riverwalk.

The Astoria brewery will expand from its 20-barrel brewing system to a 50-barrel system and add fermentation and conditioning tanks. The company hopes the new capacity will help it double production by 2024.

The company was founded in 2013. The company shored up the decrepit Bornstein family fish processing plant on the waterfront east of the Astoria Bridge and built the brewery, restaurant and taproom with its signature floor window that allows customers to watch sea lions on a lounging platform below deck.

In 2019, Buoy purchased Pilot House Distilling.

"We have learned that slow and steady has worked really well for us," said Jessyka Dart-McLean, Buoy's marketing manager.

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