



Seaside schools superintendent to retire

Dougherty to take one more run at bond

By Katherine Lacaze
EO Media Group

SEASIDE — Doug Dougherty is retiring as the superintendent for Seaside School District 10 at the end

of the 2015-16 school year after serving in the district 35 years, 19 of those as superintendent.

Dougherty announced his retirement during the district's board of directors meeting Tuesday, thanking board members for their "ongoing trust and support."

"We have shared a vision of seeking to do what was in the best interest of our stu-

dents," Dougherty wrote in a letter announcing his decision. "Your collaborative and caring leadership has been a major reason why I have chosen to serve my entire professional career in Seaside School District."

The board accepted his retirement and voted to create a temporary committee to set a process for seeking Dougherty's replacement,

who will start in July 2016. The committee — which includes Chairman Steve Phillips and board members Patrick Nofield and Hugh Stelson — will consider contracting with an agency to assist and creating a committee to help with the interview process, Phillips said.

Dougherty accepted a request from the board to serve part-time as superinten-

dent-emeritus upon his retirement to help transition the new superintendent during the 2016-17 school year.

Safe zone

Dougherty's primary role, however, will be working on a new school relocation bond to be placed on the November 2016 ballot.

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Doug Dougherty

Heavy rains, high winds bring flooding to North Coast

By Dani Palmer
Cannon Beach Gazette

A string of storms that brought heavy rain, high winds and flooding to the North Coast over the weekend and early into the week closed Indian Beach at Ecola State Park.

Above average rainfall caused significant erosion under Ecola State Park Road where it travels over Canyon Creek, making the road unsafe," according to an Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation press release. It will remain closed until further notice.

The weekend's storms also washed out trail access to Arcadia Beach, sitting a mile south of Cannon Beach, and rose city creek levels, flooding the small island in Ecola Creek.

Saturday's storm dumped 1.47 inches of rain on Cannon Beach, Na-

tional Weather Service meteorologist Laurel McCoy said. The area received 1.11 inches of rain on Sunday and 0.46 on Monday.

"We've been running above average on all three days," McCoy added.

On Tuesday, the nearest station in Seaside reported 2 inches of precipitation, meteorological technician Gerald Macke said.

The North Coast was hit harder than the central coast, with Newport reporting 0.63 inches of rain on Tuesday compared to the North's 2 inches, he added.

But about 10 miles inland was hit the hardest. Macke said Lee's Camp received 4 inches on Tuesday alone.

"The coast got sheltered a little bit," he added.

On Monday afternoon, Cannon Beach Public Works Director Dan Grassick said the storms had mostly

damaged gravel streets, causing ruts and debris plugged storm catch basin grates.

"We spent quite a bit of time on Friday preparing for the storm," he said. "Looks like that effort paid off so far."

No one had been called in after hours, he noted.

Tree debris littered Highway 101 near Cannon Beach, but Police Chief Jason Schermerhorn said Monday they hadn't received any reports "out of the ordinary."

"I think that Public Works kept a pretty good handle on the situation," he added.

In Seaside, the Oregon Department of Transportation was on scene over the weekend as the south side of Highway 101 filled with water, requiring incident response.

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DANI PALMER/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

Ecola Creek water levels rose during storms over the weekend, covering the creek's island.

Dispensary decision awaits as family seeks license

'Nothing to fear' says applicant Sam Chapman

By Dani Palmer
Cannon Beach Gazette

An Astoria couple wants to be the first to open a marijuana dispensary in Cannon Beach, and their son has asked the City Council to consider allowing them to do so.

On Nov. 3, councilors decided to table the decision.

Sam Chapman, founding partner of New Economy Consulting, plans to address the stigmas attached to marijuana and show residents "there's nothing to fear." His parents, a retired Ecola State Park Ranger and a former dean of administration for Portland Community College, are the ones who intend to open shop in Cannon Beach.

"These are not scary people," he said. "These are not people that want children to be harmed. They don't want marijuana to fall into the hands of children."

He said a marijuana dispensary should be treated as "a responsible industry, just like a liquor store," with thousands of dollars required to even get a license and security system up and running.

The City Council is examining writing an ordinance to regulate marijuana businesses with time, place and manner restrictions in commercial zones, giving voters the chance to opt out of marijuana sales in November 2016 or possibly not allowing marijuana dispensaries under its current business license ordinance, which requires businesses to abide by local, state and federal law. Medical and recreational marijuana is legal in Oregon, but still considered a controlled substance by the federal government.

By relying on the current ordinances alone, however, the city could be at risk of litigation, city attorney Tammy Herdener said. Other municipalities have been sued over similar ordinances and while the cities have prevailed at a lower court level, cases are in the Oregon Court of Appeals and could move to the state's Supreme Court.

And because Measure 91, legalizing recreational marijuana in Oregon, received so much support from the public, Cannon Beach voters would have

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Police Chief Jason Schermerhorn

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Fashion show enlivens Stormy Weather festival

Art brightens wet weekend

By Dani Palmer
Cannon Beach Gazette



Tracy Abel models stormy weather gear for Maggie and Henry during the inaugural "Dancing in the Rain" fashion show.

DANI PALMER/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

If one forgot their rain gear for Stormy Weather, there was plenty to choose from during the 28th annual art festival's "Dancing in the Rain" fashion show at Coaster Theatre.

The inaugural event featured models showing off boots, hats, coats, umbrellas and more from Cannon Beach shops on Saturday, Nov. 10.

Kathy Kleczek, who designs much of what she has in La Luna Loca, said she appreciated the chance to showcase different forms of art this year. The typical Stormy Weather Arts Festival attendee is used to paintings and sculptures.

"I thought it was just wonderful," said Susan Scott, 66, of Portland. "There were

some beautiful clothes on display and a few gift ideas that developed."

"I'm going to try and not go overboard," she added with a chuckle.

Scott's granddaughter, Lindsay Harris, 14, was a fan of the painted umbrellas, also new this year.

Nancy Norman, who shows her art at DragonFire Gallery, painted one with clouds dumping rain, fish and cats titled, "It's Raining Cats," inspired by her love for felines.

She made one for herself first and tested it in the rain, noting it took several coats of paint.

"I've never painted on an umbrella before," she said. She usually paints on canvas and has worked with furniture, but the umbrella presented its own challenges. It had "a lot more give than canvas" and had to be balanced on an easel.

But Norman added it was fun and that she was happy to do it. The five umbrellas were painted by gallery artists like her and the Seaside High School art class.

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