



GEORGE VETTER/FOR EO MEDIA GROUP

Seaside High School senior Silvia Avila plays a victim during a countywide training exercise for the Community Emergency Response team program.

Seaside students set sights on establishing CERT club

By Katherine Lacaze
EO Media Group

Seniors Caitlynn Howe and Silvia Avila are spearheading an effort to establish a teen Community Emergency Response Team club at Seaside High School and make the outreach program more prevalent in the Seaside community.

With the help of Bijan Fayyaz, Clatsop County's emergency services coordinator, Howe and Avila believe a CERT club could help incorporate more authentic training into tsunami drills, equip the school with the adequate quality and quantity of emergency equipment and work with other teen CERT groups in the area.

"We feel that making a club would create a footprint to make CERT a permanent part of the school and eventually have it become as big of an extracurricular as any other club," Fayyaz said.

He is working with school administrators — at Seaside High School, as well as Astoria and Warrenton high schools — to figure out how to make emergency preparedness more present on each campus. He envisions each school will have their own club or team, and they all will function collaboratively under a countywide teen CERT umbrella. Since starting discussions, Howe and Avila have shown enthusiasm and the desire to help make that happen.

Surfsand 'hammered' by wave

No one hurt as boomer hits ground floor

By R.J. Marx
Cannon Beach Gazette

A string of heavy storms and winds pounded the North Coast this week, leading to high waves in Cannon Beach. One of those breached a concrete barrier and slammed through the ground floor of the Surfsand Resort Friday, Dec. 11, at about 12:30 p.m., Ryan Snyder, President of Martin Hospitality, said Sunday. Eleven rooms were impacted. No one was hurt.

The wave was the "perfect culmination" of elements, Snyder said, with high tide, still wind and dunes outside the Surfsand at 148 W. Gower.

"It's happened before in the past," he said. "We've had water hit the sea wall. There was no wind at the time of the breach, and so there was no wave being knocked down by wind. It was the perfect culmination. We just got hammered."

Guests and staff were never in danger, Snyder said.

Staff was able to reassign guests to other accom-



R.J. MARX/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

Damage from water and debris at a beachfront room at the Surfsand in Cannon Beach.

modations. "They were very understanding," Snyder said.

"We pulled everything out of the room, we're drying it out and assessing what the damage is," he said. "We're still evaluating whether any personal belongings were destroyed.

We're not sure if they were damaged or not."

Throughout the weekend, trucks worked to pump debris from the first floor, working through scattered downpours Saturday and Sunday.

"It's nature taking its course," Snyder said. "We

have systems that are in place to help remediate this when it happens, but obviously we need to re-evaluate all of those, so that's kind of what we're doing. We're getting those rooms cleaned out right now and trying to assess what we're going to do going forward."

Water main break interrupts service

By Dani Palmer
Cannon Beach Gazette

A water main break on the north side of Cannon Beach knocked out water service to about 80 residents early Dec. 7.

Resident Bob Lundy said he woke up sometime before 6 a.m. and tried running the water. Realizing nothing was coming out of the faucet, he notified police due to the early hour.

Public Works Director

Dan Grassick said the break occurred at 5:30 a.m. and "was on a large diameter transmission main just across the bridge on the north side of town."

"Staff were notified via alarms at a pump station and the reservoir level sensor," he added. "Didn't take long to find it given the volume of water."

Public Work crews had the break isolated in about 20 minutes and completed repairs around noon, restoring

water service.

The old mainline was built prior to the construction of Breaker's Point "and is known to be extremely brittle material (PVC)," Grassick said.

"It has had several spontaneous breaks of no known origin during its operational history," he added, "and this event was similar to previous breaks."

He noted that a cracked segment about 10 feet long was replaced with higher quality PVC pipe.



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