



Sand Statement

The team True Grit won first place in the masters division for their statement-making sculpture "American Standard."

PHOTO BY LYRA FONTAINE/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE



PLAYING IN THE SAND

Contestants craft variety of sculptures at different skill levels

By Lyra Fontaine
Cannon Beach Gazette

The first-place winner of the masters division in this year's Cannon Beach Sandcastle Contest, "American Standard," was a sculpture of a toilet flanked by a donkey to the left and an elephant to the right. Between the two symbolic animals, the team True Grit etched "Ballot" on a torn piece of sand toilet paper.

"It's political," True Grit builder Wade Lipp said, a result of the team "putting our heads together." Castles and dragons made welcome appearances, but the toilet was just one of many of the unique ideas on display at the 52nd anniversary of the playful annual competition on Saturday.

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Sand dune violation notice issued

An emergency dune project encroached on public property

By Lyra Fontaine
Cannon Beach Gazette

Sand was moved near Breakers Point in Cannon Beach after a winter storm. But was it moved from an area that needed Oregon Parks and Recreation approval? City officials says it was part of an attempt to prevent erosion, but the nonprofit Oregon Coast Alliance say the city and Breakers Point should have sought state approval before putting shovels to the sand.

Oregon Coast Alliance Land Use Director Cameron

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Seaside graduates share a laugh during the Seaside High School graduation ceremony Monday, at the Seaside Convention Center.

PHOTOS BY DANNY MILLER, /EO MEDIA GROUP

Class of 2016 celebrates

Seniors celebrate accomplishments

By Lyra Fontaine
Cannon Beach Gazette

Ninety-five graduating students of Seaside High School's 100th class ascended onstage Monday night in red caps and gowns to celebrate an array of accomplishments.

Taylor Barnes, one of six valedictorians, told fellow students to have "a Muhammad Ali mindset," quoting the late boxer, "I'm gonna show you how great I am."

"We all have greatness inside of us," Barnes said. "I've seen it from you. Now it's the world's turn to see it."

The Associated Student Body's efforts to help relocate district schools out of the tsunami inundation zone, and one student's mission to research and organize a centennial celebration, are just



Seaside Principal Dr. Sheila Roley hugs students as they cross the stage during the Seaside High School graduation ceremony.

two examples of the determination.

The students acknowledged exciting events like breaking school records, competing in championships, making music and creating plays.

They also celebrated small, ev-

eryday achievements — making it to school each day, completing homework, overcoming obstacles — that led to them being able to walk out of the Seaside Civic and Convention Center as graduates.

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Affordable home plan meets resistance

Residents suggest 'less impacting' sites

By Lyra Fontaine
Cannon Beach Gazette

Residents are voicing objections and suggesting alternatives as city officials and a task force discuss how Cannon Beach can provide affordable housing.

The units would be for people working in Cannon Beach with salaries about 70 to 100 percent of the county's median income — or the "missing middle," those who cannot afford high-end homes but are ineligible for government subsidies, consultant Terri Silvis said.

The affordable housing deficit, though not unique to Cannon Beach, has affected local workers, business owners and city staff.

With a grocery store and two breweries opening, new jobs are abundant in Cannon Beach, but affordable housing is not.

"Finding experienced people is very difficult," task force member and Martin Hospitality vice president of operations Dave Norstedt said, adding that the company pays about \$15 an hour.

Small businesses and the Haystack Rock Awareness Program have also struggled with employee retention.

Councilors and staff recently prioritized workforce housing while creating the city's strategic plan, to be adopted in July. City Planner Mark Barnes said the task force is an important part in meeting some housing goals, such as providing 25 affordable housing units for various sizes and consistent with city architectural guidelines by 2018, then adding 25 more units by 2020.

The goals also involve increasing long-term rentals and temporarily banning vacation rental programs.

In May, the task force saw conceptual designs of what affordable housing units could look like at the RV Park on Haskell Lane and the downtown Spruce Street parking lot. The ideas will eventually be introduced at a City Council meeting.

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