



Dougherty looks beyond the bond

Former Seaside Superintendent Doug Dougherty answers questions about the \$99.7 million bond that will be put before voters in November.

Q: Given the mold and asbestos you've described in Seaside schools, what is the health risk for students as the school year begins?

Doug Dougherty: We have had the mold tested. It is not at a level that

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Crumbling schools propel district vote

District to seek \$99.7 million for new campus

By R.J. Marx
Cannon Beach Gazette

Voters will get a say in whether they will pay to move three Seaside schools out of the danger zone.

Citing dire need and tsunami risk, Seaside School District

Superintendent-emeritus Doug Dougherty presented a proposal for a \$99.7 million bond Thursday, Sept. 1, for a new campus for all the schools. Members of the Seaside School District Board of Directors unanimously voted to bring the resolution to voters in the November election.

"I'm really happy we're moving forward," board Chairman Steve Phillips said after the meeting. "We have pared down to the actual needs of the district rather than the wants."

Dougherty said there are four schools in the state in the tsunami inundation zone. Three of those are in the Seaside School District.

Gearhart Elementary School, Broadway Middle School and Seaside High School were built with an expected lifespan of 45 to 50 years. Each has been used beyond that span. "The schools are currently unsafe, they are deteriorating and they're very inefficient," he said.

At Broadway Middle School, students are in structures with unreinforced masonry, aging utili-

ties, cinder block construction and walls torn by horizontal shearing.

Gearhart Elementary school's gym is riddled with dry rot and "would collapse in an earthquake," Dougherty said. Leaks are so bad in the 68-year-old school, "It's pretty much like playing whack-a-mole, where you are pretty sure the leak is not coming directly from the spot it's leaking from. Often it's many feet away and trying to track it down is very, very difficult."

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ENJOYING THE LAST OF SUMMER



Beach picnic, 1911

See more pictures along with 'Reflections' on summer's passing in Elaine Trucke's column, 'Change is the only constant in Cannon Beach' **PAGE 4**

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Nicholson housing plan wins new OK

Cannon Beach group raised \$25,000 to fight council approval

By Lyra Fontaine
Cannon Beach Gazette

A property owner got the go ahead again for new homes on his half-acre Cannon Beach property.

The state Land Use Board of Appeals affirmed the City Council's March approval of Jeff Nicholson's four-lot residential development last week.

Ten residents had challenged the council's decision, including Jeff Harrison, president of Friends of Cannon Beach, a group formed in opposition to the development. The group sought to reverse the council's final approval, with conditions, of Nicholson's development plan.

The Board of Appeals found their arguments "provide no basis for reversal or remand of the decision."

After Nicholson bought the property in 2014, his plans were denied by the Planning Commission, then tentatively approved by City Council in 2015 and affirmed in a previous state decision.

In January, planning commissioners said the development plan lacked details, including when and how the new houses would be built, landscaping and protections for neighbors during construction. Friends of Cannon Beach said the approval set an unwanted precedent for future development, since the City Council's tentative approval came after a threatened lawsuit by the developer.

"LUBA confirmed overwhelmingly that the appeal was completely without any merit whatsoever," Nicholson said in a statement.

The 70-member Friends of Cannon Beach raised about \$25,000 to fight the decision.

"Once again, LUBA did not affirm this was a good decision, but rather that the City Council had the right to make it," Harrison said in a statement. "For Cannon Beach, this most unfortunate action shrugs at our ordinances and is in no way good for our town."

Board denied all arguments

The appeals board denied arguments that the final plan lacked sufficient detail, veered from the approved preliminary plan and lacked a development schedule.

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Jeff Nicholson

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At Cannon Beach Gallery, putting art on a pedestal

Storytelling through ceramics

By Lyra Fontaine
Cannon Beach Gazette

Last Friday, Cannon Beach Arts Association program director Jane Brumfield was busy painting pedestals, carefully unpacking ceramic sculptures, and installing the artists' work.

Brumfield was preparing for the Sept. 3 opening reception of the new Cannon Beach Gallery exhibit "Narrative Ceramic Sculpture: A Story Told Through Clay."

"I am very interested in narrative art," said Brumfield, who

curated the exhibit. "This is my baby, really."

The exhibit features work by ceramicists Wesley Anderegg, Akio Takamori, Michelle Gallagher, Jacqueline Hurlbert, Margaret Keelan, Babette Harvey, Heidi Preuss Grew, and Robin and John Gumaelius.

The artists used their life experiences, observations or imagined worlds to create unique and imaginative pieces — which can be interpreted and appreciated differently by each person who views them.

Some sculptures explore themes like identity, aging, the

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LYRA FONTAINE/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

Program director Jane Brumfield sets up Cannon Beach Gallery's newest exhibit, "Narrative Ceramic Sculpture."