

Schermerhorn gets top Scout mentoring award



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jason Schermerhorn received a volunteer mentorship award from the Boy Scouts.

Cannon Beach Police Chief Jason Schermerhorn was presented the prestigious Silver Beaver volunteerism award on Feb. 23 at a special recognition ceremony in their honor.

The Silver Beaver Award is the top award a local Boy Scout council can bestow upon a volunteer mentor. Recipients are selected by confidential nominations of adult peers and only one award may be presented for every 60 troops.

As well as serving as chief, Schermerhorn is an adult leader in the Fort Clatsop District. In 2010 he became a den leader for Pack 540 and in 2012, he became the assistant Cubmaster

and he remained in that position for three years.

In 2015, Schermerhorn moved on to become an assistant scoutmaster for Troop 642. From 2011-13 he served as a day camp range director for the Fort Clatsop Day Camp where he recruited fellow police officers to help run the range. He has also been serving as South County Scouting for Food chairman since 2013.

In 2011, Schermerhorn was the recipient of the Byron Award in Seaside which is presented each year to a member of the Seaside community who has demonstrated outstanding qualities in community service. He

was also awarded the Fort Clatsop District Award of Merit for 2016. Schermerhorn served on the board of directors including as vice chairman and chairman of The Harbor of Clatsop County which supports victims of domestic violence. Schermerhorn has been a volunteer for the Seaside Fire Department for more than 11 years.

Schermerhorn also volunteers on the Helping Hands board which serves the homeless population trying to re-enter society in Clatsop, Tillamook, and Columbia counties. This year Schermerhorn is also teaching the course "Introduction to Criminal Justice" at Clatsop Community College.

Suicidal man in custody after standoff

A suicidal man on the beach with a gun was taken safely into custody Saturday, Feb. 25, after a 2½-hour standoff with police, Cannon Beach Police Chief Jason Schermerhorn reported. According to Schermerhorn, the man was transported to Providence Seaside Hospital for treatment. No one was injured.

District looks to implement Safe Routes to School program

By Sue Cody
For Cannon Beach Gazette

How kids get to school may be the hub around which parents, organizations and agencies intersect to build a healthier environment for everyone.

That's because a new school bond measure, a public works needs assessment and parent interest are bringing together information and resources, through the federal Safe Routes to School program.

"One of really nice things about this is how it is an extension of the incredible opportunities for kids that we're seeing come together simultaneously in our community," said Sheila Roley, superintendent of Seaside School District.

She cited work with The Way to Wellville and Dan Gaffney for the Universal Pre-school feasibility grant and a partnership with Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District for preschool — and now, Safe Routes to School.

Safe Routes promotes health

About a dozen people gathered at Seaside Heights Elementary School Feb. 9 for

a presentation by LeeAnne Ferguson on Safe Routes to School. Ferguson, of The Street Trust in Portland, presented information about the importance of encouraging students to walk or ride their bikes to school.

It struck home for Ferguson when she heard the surgeon general a couple years ago say that this generation was the first in a long time in which kids are not living as long as their parents.

"Kids are not getting enough exercise," Ferguson says. Seventy percent of adults walked or biked to school when they were younger, and today that number is only 10 percent.

Safe Routes to School has been implemented in different parts of the state and country. Ferguson says in Portland, safe routes increased walking and biking to school by 40 percent.

Benefits include exercise for better health, easing traffic congestion and air quality around the school and improving a sense of community.

Shasia Fry, with North West Transportation Options, attended a Safe Routes to School conference in Eugene. Her work promotes safe and active transportation options for Clatsop, Tillamook and

Columbia counties.

"I am really excited to start Safe Routes to School in Seaside," Fry says. "If we teach children to make smart, safe choices, when they become adults, it will be part of their lifestyle."

She took the concept to Seaside Public Works Director Dale McDowell. They took it to the Seaside School Board in September. She says they have support from leaders, now she would like to start a parent or community group to move this project forward.

City assessment prelude to grant

For his part, McDowell has been doing an inventory of infrastructure needed within a one-mile radius of the school. It's not as simple as connecting sidewalks, as he first imagined. He ran into culverts, cable lines and right-of-way issues, then realized it would be a good time to lay conduit for street lights that are missing.

"We are taking baby steps," McDowell says. Once the neighborhood needs are assessed, he can apply for grant funding through Safe Routes to School.

CANNON BEACH POLICE LOG

Feb. 19

2:03 p.m., Fernwood and Hemlock: Police arrest a subject charged with driving under the influence of intoxicants, driving while suspended misdemeanor, and reckless driving. The subject was also cited for failure to maintain their lane and ignition interlock device. After undergoing a chemical test, the individual was shown to have a blood alcohol content of 0.17 percent.

11:09 a.m., 7900 block Ray Brown Road: Officers assist another agency with a cold burglary case. Building was searched and secured.

1:14 p.m., Tolovana Park: A subject was warned for overnight camping.

2:48 p.m., 200 block East Jackson: Police assist the fire department and Medix on a medical call. The subject was transported to Seaside Providence Hospital. Allegations against the person's caregiver were investigated. The allegations were deemed unfounded. No crime occurred.

Feb. 20

11:01 a.m., Hemlock and Gulcana: Officers contact two parties engaged in an ongoing domestic disturbance. The disagreement was verbal only and both parties were advised to stay away from each other for the rest of the day.

4:09 p.m., 2400 block Pacific: Police assist the fire department and Medix about a subject who had fallen down. The subject said they were uninjured; no further action was taken.

5:47 p.m., Jefferson and Ocean: Police respond to a report of a woman be-

having suspiciously and knocking on peoples' doors. Police locate her inside her car. She is advised of complaints regarding her behavior.

Feb. 21

11:50 a.m., Elk Creek Road: Officer received a report from another officer regarding a vehicle being operated by a driver with a suspended license. Officer initiated a traffic stop and arrested the driver under ORS. 811.182, or driving while suspended misdemeanor. Officers determined the two passengers inside the both have active warrants for their arrest. The driver was cited and released per Parole and Probation. Two subjects were transported to the Clatsop County Jail. One subject was also charged with possession of a controlled substance methamphetamine. The vehicle was seized and towed pending a search warrant.

5:31 p.m., Hemlock and Gower: A loose dog is caught and impounded and subsequently released to its owner.

Feb. 22

11:21 a.m., Highway 101 and Highway 26: Police respond to a motor vehicle accident. No injuries were reported.

7:24 p.m., 3400 block S. Hemlock: Police and the fire department were on scene when a juvenile swallowed a large amount of water while swimming.

Feb. 23

11:28 p.m., 200 block North Hemlock: Police respond to an alarm at a building. There were no signs of forced entry and no broken glass. All windows and doors were found to be

secure. It was deemed a changeable alarm issue.

Feb. 24

1:56 a.m., 500 block Avenue A: Police assist other agency in a domestic assault; a child was present during the assault. Subject was taken into custody and The Harbor contacted.

2:39 a.m., 1000 block S. Columbia: Cannon Beach police assist Seaside police with a disorderly subject said to be on methamphetamine. Subject was arrested and transported.

Feb. 25

1:48 p.m., Chapman Point Beach: Police respond to a report of a suicidal subject, armed with a handgun, possibly en route to Cannon Beach. Subject was located on the beach at Chapman Point. Subject refused to obey commands or show his right hand, which was tucked inside his jacket pocket. Several hours of a stand-off ensued until the subject turned himself in and a handgun was confiscated from his right jacket pocket. Subject was taken to Providence Seaside Hospital to be evaluated by Clatsop Behavioral Health.

2:31 p.m., Highway 101, MP 29.8: Police respond to a report of a man parked on Highway 101 just south of Sunset. The caller said the subject was behaving oddly. Police determine he was having a mental health episode and was not a danger to himself. He was given a courtesy ride back to his residence.

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