



COLIN MURPHEY/THE DAILY ASTORIAN

Erick Owen, Melissa Keyser and Bonnie Neugebauer look for sea stars that have been decimated in recent years by a mysterious disease.

## Gov. Brown appoints HRAP coordinator to state board

### Melissa Keyser to serve on ocean policy council

By Brenna Visser  
Cannon Beach Gazette

Haystack Rock Awareness Program coordinator Melissa Keyser has been appointed by Gov. Kate Brown to serve on the Oregon Ocean Policy Advisory Council.

The council is a state-wide marine policy advisory body that advocates for environmental conservation and coastal community interests. Keyser, who has lead the program charged with protecting the intertidal and bird ecology of Haystack Rock's marine garden and Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge in Cannon Beach since 2015, heard about the position while

servicing on another advisory board about preserving the state's rocky shorelines.

"I am happy to do my part in raising awareness about the vast issues that affect our ocean," Keyser said. "We all have to be doing more. I didn't apply because I thought I was better or more qualified than anyone else. I wanted to make more of an impact."

Her role will be to represent coastal communities when the state looks at addressing environmental issues like ocean acidification, environmental education and plastic pollution.

With her background as an environmental educator, Keyser said she hopes to advocate for environmental programs and solutions that can balance the need for conservation with providing recreational opportunities in Oregon's natural spaces.

# Citizen's academy grads recognized

By R.J. Marx  
Cannon Beach Gazette

SEASIDE — With a packed room at the Seaside City Council Monday evening, graduates of the citizen's police academy were honored upon completion of the spring course.

Cannon Beach Police Chief Jason Schermerhorn presented the recognition to 19 students — the most in the class's more than decade-long history — along with Dave Ham, Chief Matt Workman of Warrenton and Astoria Chief Geoff Spalding.

City councilor Tita Montero participated in the class's 14th year. "I wish I had done it earlier," she said, "because it was such a fabulous experience."

The course took participants behind the scenes at each city's police department, the county courthouse, with firearms training and simulated confrontations. Participants visited dispatch centers, the county jail and studied the public safety budget. The group met weekly on Tuesday nights, Schermerhorn said.

Police shared philosophy and experi-



R.J. MARX

Four chiefs: Jason Schermerhorn of Cannon Beach, Astoria's Geoff Spalding, Warrenton's Matthew Workman and Seaside's Dave Ham.

ences that you "wouldn't normally think about," Montero said. The class was "impressive and thought-provoking,"

she said. "It brought to the fore that it takes a very special type of person to serve and protect."

## CANNON BEACH POLICE LOG

**May 25**  
**Five incidents of prohibited overnight camping reported.**

**1:19 p.m.**, 500 block N. Larch: Following up on a complaint about a neighbor's garbage, the responsible party agreed to clean it up.

**1:38 p.m.** Haystack Rock: Police respond to a report of someone gathering mussels and eating them from a protected area. Subject was advised of the law; reporting party did not wish to sign a citation.

**4:30 p.m.**, Second Street parking lot: A suspicious person reported

looking into vehicles was located by police who said the person partially resembled the description, noting the man was missing part of his left foot. He seemed to be having trouble walking. Another possible subject was spotted by the cell tower, but police were unable to locate.

**May 26**  
**Six incidents of prohibited overnight camping reported.**

**12:55 p.m.**, 200 block N. Spruce: A person selling jewelry outside in a courtyard was warned of the outdoor merchandising laws.

**9:04 p.m.**, 1100 block Spruce Court: An intoxicated female is given a ride home by a friend. Her intoxication was reported to police who said she was not causing a disturbance.

**May 27**  
**17 incidents of prohibited overnight camping recorded.**

**9:30 a.m.**, 200 block Siuslaw: A dog off leash attacked and killed a rabbit. The owner was contacted by police, saying the dog became loose during a medical crisis. The owner was warned of the dog's behavior.

**May 28**  
**Three incidents of prohibited overnight camping recorded.**

**May 29**  
**One incident of prohibited overnight camping recorded.**

**May 30**  
**Six incidents of prohibited overnight camping recorded.**

**10:49 a.m.**, Downtown: Police responding to a report of a man singing to himself and appearing possibly disoriented found no one of that description.

# Anderson pursued dance before law enforcement

Anderson from Page 1A

"The best way to describe (parkour) is finding the most efficient way to get from point A to point B," he said. "It's learning how to traverse obstacles by just using your own body."

Originally from Grants Pass, the Astoria resident grew his love for all things acrobatic at his aunt's gymnastics gym. Through that he developed a passion for pushing his body to the limit.

"I quickly saw I didn't enjoy traditional sports, but I still had the passion to be an athlete," he said.

He eventually moved to California to study kinesiology — the study of human body movement — at California State University, Sacramento. But after some scheduling conflicts led him to take dance classes to fill

some extra credit hours, he quickly fell in love with the art and switched his major to dance.

For the next few years, Anderson designed and taught parkour and gymnastics to children in the Sacramento area. But through it all, Anderson designed and taught parkour and gymnastics to children in the Sacramento area. But through it all, Anderson designed and taught parkour and gymnastics to children in the Sacramento area.

"When I was a little kid, people would ask me what I wanted to be and I would say a police officer," Anderson said. "I didn't have parents or aunts or uncles who were (police officers), but it's just what I always said. I don't know why but I have always thought about it."

A year and a half ago, Anderson and his wife, Melissa, decided they wanted to move back to Oregon to be closer to family. After some strate-

gic Googling, the two decided the North Coast's natural beauty and cultural feel was a good place to raise their two children.

Anderson picked up a tech support job at the AT&T Store in Warrenton to make ends meet. But after seeing an advertisement for a position with the Astoria Police Department, his passion for law enforcement was reignited and he decided to make a career change. He applied across the county and eventually received an offer from Cannon Beach. He is sched-

uled to attend the police academy June 10.

While going from acrobatics teacher to tech support worker to police officer definitely has caused some lifestyle whiplash, Anderson said skills from each have more crossover than one might expect.

"The knowledge of movement helps a ton in police work. There can be a lot of sitting around in a patrol vehicle," he said. "But when something does happen, it happens fast, and you have to be able to move."

## Relay for Life heads to Seaside

The music was flowing as talent belted out their repertoire at the Relay for Life Talent in late May at the Seaside American Legion. Karaoke music backing, a stage drop and burgers hot off the grill set the scene at the Seaside American Legion hall.

The event was a preview of the July 7 Relay for Life fundraiser, event organizer Laura Parvi said. Whichever band or performer succeeds in raising the most money between now and July 1 will be the opening band for Grammy-winning recording artist Ty Herndon. All funds

go to fight cancer.

"We're doing a rockin' out cancer theme this year," Parvi said. "My husband Doug passed away in October of lung cancer. He was our entertainment musician manager. This year is totally all music and totally dedicated in his honor."

The event alternates between Seaside and Astoria, Parvi said, with this year's scheduled at Seaside High School, 1801 N. Broadway. To sign up or donate, visit [acevents.org](http://acevents.org). So far, the event has raised almost \$5,000 with a final event goal of \$75,000.

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