

Sea Star Gelato celebrates opening

Donation to Food 4 Kids a highlight of the event

Sea Star Gelato celebrated their new frozen dessert shop in Seaside with a grand opening event last Saturday. Chamber Ambassadors were in attendance along with many locals as Mayor Don Larson cut the red ribbon marking the beginning of a new addition to downtown commerce.

This family owned and operated business is the unique concept of gelato chef Tracy Nye working with his wife Margot and son Logan. Trained by Italian masters, Tracy enjoys the science and artistry of creating delicious gelato and sorbetto for all to enjoy.

A highlight of the grand opening celebration was for Sea Star to generously donate a portion of the prior week's sales to Seaside Food 4 Kids. Volunteer, Coral Cook happily accepted a check for \$790.65 that will help purchase food to feed needy children.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

At the Sea Star Gelato grand opening, Food 4 Kids received a donation of \$790.65. From left: Coral Cook, Margot Nye, Logan Nye and Tracy Nye.

"We wanted to find a way to give back to the community that has been so welcoming and full of support during our first weeks of being open," said Margot Nye. "We

have had so many people stop in and wish us well. We also appreciate the many out of town visitors that helped drive sales allowing us to make this donation possible."

Sea Star, located at 8 North Columbia in Seaside, serves Italian style ice cream made in house in addition to dairy free sorbetto, specialty coffee and panini sandwiches.

Providence Seaside undergoes leadership transition

Blauer, Van Dusen resign from hospital

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

During the past couple months, the leadership at Providence Seaside Hospital has been in flux because of resignations and an internal transfer.

Chief Executive Mike Blauer has given notice of his plan to resign in late April to become an administrator for St. Luke's Hospital in Mountain Home, Idaho.

Blauer joined the Providence team in January 2013. In his two years at Providence, he launched the telehealth and telehospitalist program. The telehospitalist program provides a way for the staff to connect with a hospitalist in Portland during the 12 hours per day a hospitalist is not physically at the facility. The Portland personnel then can evaluate patients that come in during the night.

In addition, Blauer helped prepare for the new Elder-Place North Coast facility, which will be opening soon on North Roosevelt Drive, and guided improvement of mental health services, Pub-

lic Affairs Manager Paulette McCoy said.

While the staff is sad to see him go, she said, they are happy he has an opportunity for a new position and to be closer to his and his wife's families.

It's a disappointment, she added, but "we know sometimes on the North Coast, it can be a stepping stone to other places."

The hospital has not announced who will be the interim chief executive while Blauer's permanent replacement is selected. The information likely will be released at the end of April, McCoy said.

In addition, former Providence Seaside Hospital Foundation director Sydney Van Dusen resigned in February for personal reasons. The foundation is a component of the hospital that raises funds to support Providence's services on the North Coast. Van Dusen, who became director in June 2012, will be replaced with Kimberly Ward, a 13-year resident of Gearhart.

Ward has a bachelors degree in communications from Portland State University. She has worked for the American Cancer Society as the regional quality of life di-

rector and director of cancer resource centers, according to a news release. She also has been a community manager for Relay For Life, and she raised about \$300,000 in the four communities she served.

"The Providence mission and core values drew me to this position," Ward said in the release. "I am very happy to be part of the Providence community and to support philanthropy for Providence Seaside Hospital, including the Festival of Trees."

Lastly, the hospital's chief nurse executive and operations officer, Bonnie Thompson, has transitioned into a new role with Providence Health and Service's Continuous Healthcare Improvement team in Renton, Wash., where she will be the

senior operations transformation partner and help engage and consult with local leaders across the Providence network.

Thompson worked at Providence Seaside Hospital starting in October 2012. During her time, McCoy said, she led projects to increase safety and efficiency and improve patients' experiences. She also helped obtain a grant to improve the health of Seaside residents.

Registered Nurse Janiece Zauner will become the acting chief nursing officer. She has a masters degree in nursing; is a member of the National Honor Society for Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau; and is nationally board-certified as a nurse executive. She began her work at Providence Seaside Hospital on April 6.

Larson proposes a new amendment to ordinance

Council from Page 1A

Although the ordinance as presented did not include more location restrictions than those set by the health authority, Mayor Don Larson said he would like to see more local restrictions added. Already dispensaries cannot be located within 1,000 feet of schools or other dispensaries.

"I don't think there was enough enforcement in this," he said about the proposed ordinance, adding, "We've worked for years to make this a family town."

He suggested adding two more restrictions that would prevent dispensaries from operating within 1,000 feet of an arcade with at least 10 operational arcade games as well as within 1,000 feet of local and state parks unless separated by a river, which creates a natural barrier. The second provision, as proposed by Larson, would not apply to dispensaries registered with the health authority prior to April 2015.

Only one business currently holds a license from the state to operate as a medical marijuana dispensary and that is Highway 420 on North Roosevelt Drive. Steve Geiger, the owner of Highway 420, thanked the council members at the meeting for their work on the ordinance but also notified them that his business might be within 1,000 feet of Cartwright Park. He asked them to

consider that, if they adopt a location restriction pertaining to parks.

The Mill Ponds also are near to Highway 420 and, once the park at that location is established, it will create further limitations for potential dispensary owners. Also, if Geiger were to sell his business in the future, the buyer would not be able to operate a dispensary at the facility because of the park setback.

On a 5-2 vote, the council approved Larson's proposed amendment to be included for the ordinance's second reading. Councilors Jay Barber and Seth Morrissey voted against the amendment.

The council intends to hear public comment on the altered ordinance at its April 27 meeting and then bring it back for a third reading at its May 11 meeting. The ordinance can be amended up until its adoption.

Councilor Dana Phillips, saying she sees no reason to drag out the process, moved to have a second reading by title only; Mayor Don Larson seconded the motion, but it failed in a 3-4 vote.

City Attorney Dan Van Thiel recommended moving slowly and providing opportunities for public input each time the proposed ordinance is amended. For instance, he said, Larson's proposed amendment substantially changes the ordinance and makes it different than what the public saw advertised in advance of Monday's meeting.



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