



North Holladay Drive to get major facelift

Proposed plan will completely reconstruct Seaside thoroughfare

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

The city of Seaside plans a major improvement project on North Holladay Drive in coming months. Renovations are slated for portions of the road from Second Avenue to 12th Avenue.

"We're basically going to take that street and take it all the way down to the ground and rebuild it from the ground up," City Manager Mark Winstanley said.

The cost of the project still is "a wild card at this point," because the city has not gone out to bid, Winstanley said. Overall, he expects the project will cost about \$300,000 per block. The city believes the bid will be awarded later this month or in early September.

The total reconstruction will include replacing all utility lines under the road, installing a new drainage system, laying new pavement and sidewalks, placing new lighting for the road and landscaping.

Several years ago, Winstanley said, it came to the city's attention that all of North Holladay Drive needed to be redone but it was not feasible. In 2009, the city chose to rebuild the road from 12th Avenue to 24th Avenue, because that section was worse at the time than the section from Second Avenue to 12th Avenue, he said.

Now the city is in a position to do the second half. Since the water and sewer lines under the road need to be replaced, "we'd want to repave anyway," Winstanley said. "But we think it would be very advantageous and make a huge improvement for the city by redoing the lighting and sidewalks on that road at the same time. It's going to make that section look a lot nicer."

The city has definite plans to reconstruct North Holladay Drive from Sixth Avenue to 12th Avenue. If there is enough money, the second section from Second Avenue to Sixth Avenue will be done. Both sections, however, will go out to bid at one time, Public Works Director Neal Wallace said. Whether the city has enough money for the whole project will depend on the value of the bids that come in.

See Road, Page 12A



The 'Luckiest' GENERATION



Former students shared memories at the July 29 reunion.

'Greatest generation' also considers itself 'luckiest' at Seaside class reunion

Seaside High School classes from 1941 to 1951 gather for 'last huge class reunion'

Story and photos by Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

The United States was entering a World War and dancers were flocking to hear a young crooner Frank Sinatra.

And at Wednesday's Seaside High School reunion for the graduating classes of 1941 through 1951, memories of that decade were shared once again. The event showed the strength of longtime friendships, forged decades ago and carefully tended between then and now.

On July 29 at the Seaside Elks Lodge, former classmates eagerly searched for their friends to snap photographs of themselves at the reunion in an atmosphere reminiscent of the last day of high school. Old copies of Seaside's yearbook, the Sea Breeze, from the 1940s and '50s were spread across tables, along with other memorabilia.

Dozens of attendees enjoyed a picnic lunch — in addition to laughs and conversation — surrounded by large black-and-white photographs from an earlier era, as young athletes, cheerleaders, class officers and even fresh-faced grade-schoolers.

Photos of birthdays, reunions and parties throughout the years were shared at the event.

See Reunion, Page 9A



Former Seaside High school students Carlyse Dehner (Class of 1950), Sally McBride (Class of 1948) and Patty Kerwin (Class of 1950) perform the school's alma mater and official fight song during a reunion of the classes from 1941 to 1951 at the Seaside Elks Lodge on July 29.

Highway 420 opens dispensary at long last

Owners look forward to serving patients closer to their homes

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

After several years of perseverance amid medical marijuana's turbulent legal status in Seaside, Highway 420 became the city's first officially licensed dispensary to operate as of July 15.

"We won," said Steve Geiger, who co-owns the business

with his wife, Evee. "We won for the patients, and the patients are now benefiting."

The couple moved to the area in 2012, when they tried opening a shop but relocated twice because of complaints from neighbors. At that point, Geiger said, they just wanted to have a glass shop.

Eventually, they found their current location at 1803 S. Roosevelt Dr., at the intersection with Avenue S. The spot met the criteria to be a medical marijuana dispensary, as per the Oregon Medical Marijuana Program, and

the owners applied for that status two years ago.

"It costs a lot of money to become compliant with the state," Geiger said. "They demand a whole lot of things that are very expensive. It's not easy. It's not something you just throw together."

He described the paperwork to register with the Oregon Health Authority as "a cross between a tax audit and a mortgage agreement." Everything — video surveil-

See Pot, Page 7A

The ever-changing cannabis industry: A grower's perspective

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

From an in-house closet grow dedicated to one patient, then a garage and now a three-room Seaside workshop, cannabis grower Eric Saucedo stands at the forefront of the local market. A longtime marijuana cultivator, he and his two partners recently transferred their grow operation in an effort to make the business more official, secure and professional.

His end goal is to provide a first-rate product to the local area and around the state. "We're hoping to set ourselves apart with our quality and our variety," he said.

A Seaside resident, Saucedo, 32, began growing medical marijuana several years ago. "As soon as I flowered the first plant, my interest just kept growing," he said. He quickly developed a knack for it, confirmed when he entered some

See Grower, Page 7A

Beach volleyball tournament brings old, new faces in 2015

Former men's open winner gets help from friends, fans to attend final Seaside tourney

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

Bring back Dana Camacho! That was the call from Seaside volleyball fans this summer. And their call was heard.

This year, a standout player is returning for perhaps his last Seaside tournament, with a little help from his friends and fans.

Known for a powerful serve and his on-court antics, Dana Camacho, 38, of Florida, has won the men's open division several times at the Seaside Beach Volleyball Tournament. But because

of financial and logistical problems, it seemed unlikely Camacho would be able to attend this year's tournament, which starts Friday and goes through Sunday, Aug. 9.

Camacho gained fame for his brash, hard play and tattoos. He was the player fans loved to hate.

"Not too many people like cheering for me," he told a reporter in 2006. "But I like it like that. I like to spice up the crowd and get them going."

Faced with the prospect of a Seaside tournament without Camacho, one of his friends from Portland decided to rectify the problem.

Tim Foshka started a GoFundMe account, called "Let Dana Play," to fundraise for Camacho's plane ticket and lodging while he competes. In exchange, Camacho is partnering with 29-year-old Roman Onishchenko, also of Portland. Onishchenko has tried to win the open division at the Seaside tournament since 2004 without luck, although he's placed in the top 10 a few times, said Foshka, who is the player's manager.

"My goal for this year was to make two dreams come true," Foshka said. "Onishchenko will get a chance to play with someone at a very



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A grassroots effort brought volleyball great Dana Camacho back to Seaside this year.

high caliber — arguably, the highest in the northwest. And Dana Camacho will get some help from all of us who want to see him play another day. That is what the GoFundMe is about. It's not about the money; it's about us — the people and who we want to see again."

Not realizing how many fans Camacho had, the gang didn't expect to get anything, Onishchenko said. To their surprise, by continually spreading the link to the GoFundMe account through social media, such as the

See Tourney, Page 12A