Mayor Don Larson receives a check for $18,000 for the city's parks and recreation programs from Hood to Coast Chief Executive Officer Jude Hubber.

R.J. MARX PHOTO/SEASIDE SIGNAL

City Council, Hood to Coast re-up for two more years

'Dialogue' praised as councilors approve Hood to Coast renewal

By R.J. Marx
Seaside Signal

The city of Seaside and Hood to Coast reached an agreement Monday night to continue their 25-year relationship. Seaside is the final leg of the 197-mile relay, which originates in Mount Hood and draws up to 20,000 visitors to Seaside each year. The council unanimously voted to grant Hood to Coast permission to be held the weekend before Labor Day for two more years.

"We're really, really excited," said a visibly relieved Hood to Coast Chief Operating Officer Dan Floyd after the meeting. "Seaside is such a big part of this race. We're pumped. We're going to be back next year."
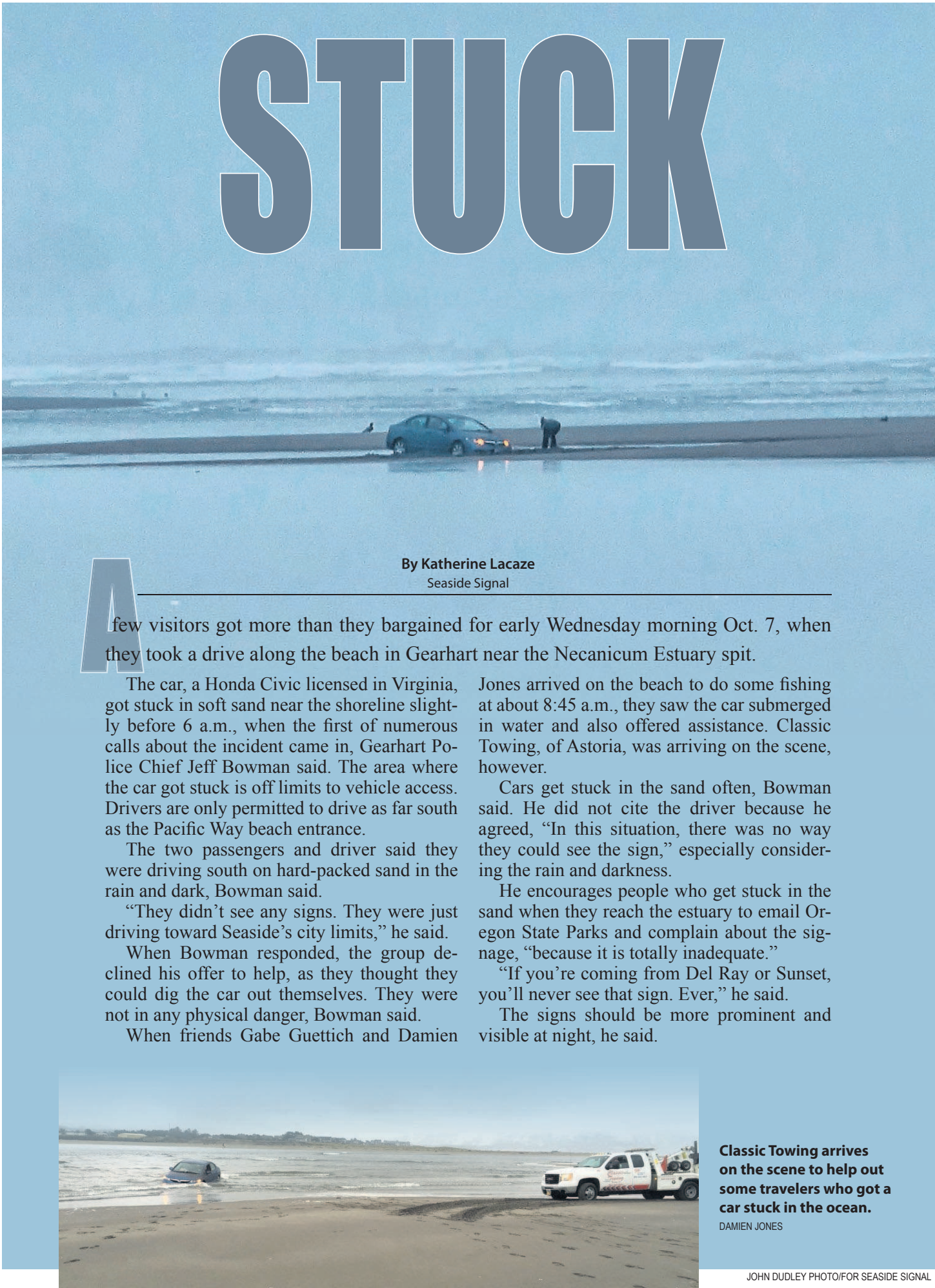
Change of date sought

The rapprochement occurred only a few weeks after business owners presented a petition seeking a date change for the event.

"Although the Seaside Chamber of Commerce and many of the area's lodging facilities benefit financially, many of us year-round business owners feel that the overall impact of hosting this massive event

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STUCK

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

A few visitors got more than they bargained for early Wednesday morning Oct. 7, when they took a drive along the beach in Gearhart near the Necanicum Estuary spit.

The car, a Honda Civic licensed in Virginia, got stuck in soft sand near the shoreline slightly before 6 a.m., when the first of numerous calls about the incident came in, Gearhart Police Chief Jeff Bowman said. The area where the car got stuck is off limits to vehicle access. Drivers are only permitted to drive as far south as the Pacific Way beach entrance.

The two passengers and driver said they were driving south on hard-packed sand in the rain and dark, Bowman said.

"They didn't see any signs. They were just driving toward Seaside's city limits," he said.

When Bowman responded, the group declined his offer to help, as they thought they could dig the car out themselves. They were not in any physical danger, Bowman said.

When friends Gabe Guettich and Damien Jones arrived on the beach to do some fishing at about 8:45 a.m., they saw the car submerged in water and also offered assistance. Classic Towing, of Astoria, was arriving on the scene, however.

Cars get stuck in the sand often, Bowman said. He did not cite the driver because he agreed, "In this situation, there was no way they could see the sign," especially considering the rain and darkness.

He encourages people who get stuck in the sand when they reach the estuary to email Oregon State Parks and complain about the signage, "because it is totally inadequate."

"If you're coming from Del Ray or Sunset, you'll never see that sign. Ever," he said.

The signs should be more prominent and visible at night, he said.

Classic Towing arrives on the scene to help out some travelers who got a car stuck in the ocean.
DAMIEN JONES

JOHN DUDLEY PHOTO/FOR SEASIDE SIGNAL

Voters given option to renew local tax for school district

Revenue would go toward operational expenses at four local schools

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

A special election Nov. 3 will give voters in Seaside School District 10 the option to renew a five-year local option tax to fund operations at the district's four schools.

Ballots were sent out Oct. 14, and voters have until Nov. 3 to turn them in.

The question on the ballot asks if the district should renew its 0.52 tax per $1,000 of assessed property value for five years beginning 2016-17.

The measure renews a current local option tax, in place since 2000 to support the school district, which includes Seaside

Rotarians go to the hop in Seaside

Auction raises funds for Rotary programs, animal protection

By R.J. Marx
Seaside Signal

The annual Seaside Rotary Auction was a rockin' good time Saturday night.

Several hundred Rotarians and supporters gathered at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center for the auction, with a special "Fund-a-Need" appeal to benefit efforts to spay and neuter the county's pets.

"Caring communities include our four-legged friends," state Sen. Betsy Johnson, D-Scappoose, said. "Rotarians are an integral part of

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Flour power comes to elementary school

Students, King Arthur Flour partner to donate bread to Manna House

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

Baking loaves of bread turned into a fun, community serving activity at Seaside Heights Elementary School with the help of King Arthur Flour's Bake For Good Kids program.

During a presentation Sept. 29 in the school's cafeteria, instructor Nate Sandel mixed simple science and math lessons with a lively baking demonstration that entertained a large group of fourth- and fifth-graders and prepared them to try the activity on their own. Each

student was sent home with a baking kit — containing flour, yeast and a dough scraper — to bake two loaves of bread, one to enjoy with their family and another to bring back the following week to be donated to Manna House Food Pantry.

Those are the three main goals of the Bake For Good Kids program: learning, baking and sharing.

It starts with learning.

While Sandel showed the group how to make dough with the help of two volunteers, fifth-graders Andrew Dalby and Alexis Martinez, he explained the chemical reactions that turn individual ingredients, such as flour, yeast and water,

Fifth-graders Alexis Martinez and Andrew Dalby volunteered for a bread-baking demonstration during the Bake For Good Kids special program, sponsored by King Arthur Flour, at Seaside Heights Elementary School on Sept. 29.

KATHERINE LACAZE/SEASIDE SIGNAL