



## DRESS for SUCCESS



Volunteer Sarah Brown speaks with a student from Seaside Heights Elementary School to prepare for Operation School Bell. She was accompanied Oct. 8 by her 3-year-old daughter, Maisyn Brown.

## Operation School Bell comes to local schools for fall 2015

Story and photos by Katherine Lacaze  
Seaside Signal

Operation School Bell came to Seaside Heights Elementary School this fall with the Assistance League of the Columbia Pacific eager to provide new school clothing and winter coats for children in need. It was one program out of many helping to provide new outfits for children for whom the clothes might be beyond reach.

The Assistance League is active throughout the school year, but the fall programs offer additional treats. Eligible students

are given an exclusive shopping trip, at stores such as the Nike Factory Store, Ross Dress for Less, J.C. Penney's, Payless Shoes and Ter Har's in Seaside. With the help of a one-on-one volunteer chaperone, the students get to pick out clothes or shoes up to a specific dollar amount.

Assistance League volunteer Paivi Ter Har, who coordinates the effort at Gearhart Elementary and is a co-owner of Ter Har's with her husband Jeff, works with about 10 volunteers to assist her

in measuring and finding out what kind of clothing students need or prefer. These could include coats, sweatshirts, dresses, pajamas, tops, underwear and shoes.

At Ter Har's elementary school shopping night in October, the Assistance League provided \$125 for each eligible student. That amount was matched by the store to enable \$250 worth of clothing purchases, Ter Har said.

High-school and middle-school students received clothing and

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*'It's just a great event...'* — Assistance League volunteer Paivi Ter Har

## Committee preps recommendations for 'old church'

City currently has no budget for building's maintenance or improvement projects

By Katherine Lacaze  
Seaside Signal

The former Faith Lutheran church facility, has no budget for improvements or maintenance, but officials are optimistic about potential uses for the First Avenue structure.

Since August, the group, led by Mayor Don Larson, has met monthly to discuss potential short- and long-term uses for the building, which has not received a new title yet. The committee will make a recommendation to Seaside City Council in the coming weeks.

During two volunteer workdays in mid-October, the committee took care of simple tasks necessary to help prepare the building, at 1115 Broadway, for any future use. The group removed trash, organized supplies, vacuumed, cleaned mold and moss from windows, inventoried the city's assets in the building and secured the facility to keep out trespassers.

The group got the bathrooms functional and the doors secure. A staff member from the Public Works Department is occasionally stopping to detect any break-ins, said

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KATHERINE LACAZE/SEASIDE SIGNAL

This former church building, acquired by the city in September 2014, could be used to house nonprofit groups.

## A love for literature leads to longevity at Beach Books

Proprietor to participate in several events for anniversary celebration

By Katherine Lacaze  
Seaside Signal

In the spring of 2005, Karen Emmerling attended the Wordstock book festival in Portland where she felt, she says, "like that was the world I should have been in my entire life."

She created a little piece of that world later that year when she opened Beach Books in Seaside. The bookstore, which at the time was located on North Edgewood Street near Pizza Harbor, held its grand opening during a Seaside Downtown Wine Walk event in November. Ten years later, Emmerling plans to celebrate her shop's 10-year anniversary with a 10 percent storewide sale and activities throughout the weekend, Nov. 13-15.

Emmerling, who became a fulltime resident of Gearhart in 1993, always has possessed an affinity for books. Although she has few memories of visiting bookstores growing up in the Beaverton area, her mother was an avid reader. Emmerling's own passion



KATHERINE LACAZE/SEASIDE SIGNAL

Karen Emmerling, owner of Beach Books, is celebrating the store's 10-year anniversary the weekend of Nov. 13 through 15.

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## VETERANS DAY

### A student looks to his role models

By Katherine Lacaze & R.J. Marx  
Seaside Signal

Seaside High School Student Body President Taylor Barnes made a moving demonstration of patriotism and respect for our nation's veterans Wednesday. "Never before have I given a speech with so much weight and meaning," Taylor said at the Seaside Downtown Development Association Veterans Day program at the Seaside Convention Center. "That is why I am honored to be speaking on behalf of the people I've always looked up to as role models."

Taylor intends to enter the Naval Academy next fall.

"Veterans like the ones that stand before me today have influenced me so that it has inspired me to follow in the footsteps of these men and women who have so bravely done so before me," Taylor said. "What you veterans have done and continue to do inspires me to give my everything in everything I do. You are the most outstanding citizens America has to offer. I hope some day I can inspire people the same way you inspire me."

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*'Veterans, you give me a type of person to look toward and model myself after. I hope that someday I can inspire people in the same way you have inspired me. You represent an achievement greater than anything money can buy. An achievement that can only be earned through extraordinary duty, service and honor. But this speech is not about me. It is about paying our respects to those we are forever indebted to.'*

— Taylor Barnes, Seaside High School Student Body President



R.J. Marx photo/Seaside Signal  
Seaside High School Student Body President Taylor Barnes addresses the Veterans Day gathering at the

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