



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Amy Magnussen, a Clatsop Community College adviser, gives a presentation to a room full of participants during the WINGS Conference in 2015.

Conference empowers women on education

One-day program features inspirational speakers, workshops

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

Since 2001, the Seaside and Astoria chapters of the American Association of University Women and Clatsop Community College have collaborated to help Clatsop County women of all ages access equal education opportunities and more promising, productive futures through a free one-day conference.

The 2016 WINGS Conference — the acronym stands for Women Interested in Going to School — is Feb. 6, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Clatsop Community College's Columbia Hall. Lunch and professional child care are provided to participants during the conference.

The conference provides sessions and workshops led by college staff and other people that help women explore education options, such as certificates, the General Education Development test, degrees, job skills, career direction and financial information.

"We were lucky enough to get a college degree and we want everyone who wants one to have the same opportunity," said Ane McIntyre, WINGS publicity chairwoman.

During the program, women hear inspirational stories from past participants or other guest speak-

ers, such as State Sen. Betty Johnson, D-Scappoose, who is a major supporter of the conference. They receive incentives to enroll at Clatsop Community College and the opportunity to apply for WINGS scholarships.

This year, the conference workshops include: degrees, certificate programs and pathways; GED certificate; federal financial aid; lives in transition; scholarships; conquering math anxiety; career planning; support services for students; and living-wage career opportunities.

The conference also features a concurrent half-day program called WINGS Latina, conducted in Spanish, which was a new addition last year.

WINGS started in 2002 and originally was intended as a one-time community service project for the American Association of University Women chapters.

"AAUW's mission is heavily into equity for women and men and education, so it seemed like a natural thing for us to do," said Pat Lehman, an association member and WINGS conference co-chairwoman.

In 2011, WINGS was one of the four winners of AAUW's national Breaking Through Barriers award.

"We feel we are performing an important service," said Lehman, who is also the chairwoman of the Clatsop Community College Foundation Board.

Frogtown to headline Tillamook Head Gathering fundraiser

Second annual event supports art education, experiences for students

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

The commonality of art, music and poetry is one of the messages students will receive when they participate in the Tillamook Head Gathering in Seaside this month.

The gathering "is really an effort to keep art endeavors alive," English teacher Mark Mizell said. "I really think we're shorting the kids if we don't expose them to the arts."

The fundraiser returns Jan. 30 at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center for a second year with a special multimedia production by Frogtown, a socially conscious entertainment troupe that features Astoria native and 1993 Seaside High graduate Heather Christie, and other performers from the Pacific Northwest.

Last year, about 250 people attended to hear prominent local author and Seaside High School alumnus Karl Marlantes. The event raised more than \$6,000, used to bring award-winning Oregon author Clem Starck to speak to English classes on the subject of beat poetry, send students on field trips and offer opportunities to learn more about visual and performing arts.

When Mizell started teaching at the high school, funds were available for field trips and activities to support extracurriculars, but "those funds have really gotten scarce," he said.

That is unfortunate, since "there is a very thin line — if there is a line at all," between the arts, creativity and spiritual matters, he added.

"When you're talking about the arts, you're talking about things that really keep people going on a day-by-day basis: visual arts, music,



ADAM TISCHNER/SUBMITTED PHOTO

Seaside High School alum Heather Christie sings Frogtown's "Middle of the Road" with Oregon Hall of Fame's Andy Stokes. Christie will be performing with the Frogtown cast at the Tillamook Head Gathering fundraiser to benefit the arts at Seaside High School.

poetry," Mizell said. "They might not be necessarily bread-and-butter sorts of things as far as money goes, but the arts give us spiritual nourishment that sometimes the students don't necessarily get in other places."

Teaching diversity with frogs, music

The Tillamook Head Gathering is put on by a committee of current and former students and teachers.

The highlight of the event will be a multimedia stage show, Frogtown, based on Emmy-award-winning author and composer Philip Pelletier's musical storybook "One Night in Frogtown," published in 2008.

"It's for kids 9 to 90," Mizell said. "It's really a cool story, and the performance they do is really neat."

Using projected animations, a live-story reading and live music performances, the theatrical rock show tells the story of cultural diversity using music as a metaphor. The cast includes Seaside's Christie, Pelletier, Oregon Music Hall of Famer Andy Stokes and saxophonist Andy Warr.

Music as an outlet

Christie, who helps produce the show, also does individual work as a performer. She comes from a musical family; her grandparents, father, aunt and uncles all did performing arts of some sort. Her aunt, Retta Christie, spearheaded the western swing group Retta and the Smart Fellas.

Heather Christie's early memories include watching her dad's rock shows under her mother's poncho. At a young age, she started singing bluegrass, country and western and gospel songs. Using her mother's 1940s Martin guitar, she taught herself how to play the instrument.

An affinity and talent for music was a natural part of her life, not something she had to consciously strive for.

"I think it was just something I was born with," she said. "It was just happening and it was what was driving me."

Her style is influenced by the sounds of the '60s and '70s — Joni Mitchell, the Eagles, Grateful Dead, Rickie Lee Jones and Bon-

nie Raitt. She has written and produced three albums and toured with her own material.

About eight years ago, she got connected with Pelletier and Frogtown and started producing, collaborating and singing with the group.

"It actually helped me grow a lot as an independent artist to have all these new experiences and take it to another level," she said.

The group is focused on a new release, called "Bedtime for Tadpoles," a multimedia experience with a lullaby ambiance that follows the water cycle, as well as a CD featuring dance music, called "Let's Move!"

The fundraiser will include a silent auction, featuring art donated by local artists. From 6:30 to 7 p.m., people can browse the silent auction items. High school senior Claire Ogilvie will coordinate the auction, among other tasks, as part of her Pacifica Project.

Tickets cost \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. They are available at Beach Books, Seaside Coffee House and the business office at Seaside High School.

City looks to the future with growth boundaries

Growth from Page 1A

"Anyone who lives where South Wahanna Road is going to be improved or changed should be notified," he added.

Notification is so important, according to several property owners, because they believe the boundary expansion will impact their way of life by spurring development, changing traffic patterns, requiring more utilities and infrastructure, increasing crime rates and the need for law enforcement presence and putting a strain on the city's emergency services capacity.

"Country living will disappear, along with my grandparents' heritage and my peace of mind," said Kay Kjemhus, who lives on Huckleberry Drive.

City staff says it sent at least one notice to those within the proposed expansion areas, as well as those who own adjacent property. After last month's meeting, when the commission honed in on acquiring land for the boundary from three different sites instead of one, people who own adjacent property within 100 feet of the proposed boundary changes were notified about the possible expansion.

Projecting 14 years ahead

The city is interested in expanding its urban growth boundary to provide adequate land to support Seaside's estimated population growth over 14 years. Originally, the city was using a 20-year land-needs analysis, which showed the growth boundary would require about 197 additional acres to satisfy the city's projected population in 20 years. The proposed amount of acres was scaled back nearly 30 percent, to 137.5 acres, to instead satisfy the city's projected population in 14 years, a more conservative estimate, according to Don Hanson, of HLB Otak, who is consulting with the city on the project.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Areas of large-scale development in Seaside in a map prepared by HLB Otak and delivered to the city Tuesday.

In a final report submitted by Otak in early January, the proposed Southeast Hills site, near South Wahanna Road, would provide 80.7 acres; the North Hills site, east of North Wahanna Road with potential access from Shore Terrace and Ocean Avenue, would provide 33.8 acres; and the Lewis and Clark Hills site, north of Lewis and Clark Road, would provide 23 acres.

At the commission's meeting in December, the proposed amount of acres to satisfy a 14-year land-needs analysis was about 142. However, after the last work session, they modified the amount by 4.2 acres to account for vacant land near the Cove that is in the urban growth boundary but was not originally accounted for, Hanson said.

Need to know

One resident who lives adjacent to the Lewis and Clark Hills

site said he first received notification about the possible expansion in December, not enough time to provide input before the release of the Otak report.

Maria Pincetich, who also lives in the Southeast Hills area, shared the Oregon Regulatory Statute regarding notice requirements for local quasi-judicial land use hearings, which states property owners should be notified if their property is located: within 100 feet of the property that is the subject of the notice if that property is wholly or partially within an urban growth boundary; within 250 feet of the subject property if it is outside an urban growth boundary and not within a farm or forest zone; or within 500 feet of the subject property if it is within a farm or forest zone.

Planning Director Kevin Cupples said those provisions do not apply to this process

because it is not a land use decision. Rather, the commission is acting as a recommendatory body that will provide input on a potential comprehensive plan change to the Seaside City Council, he said. At the request of the commission, staff did try to initially contact every person within the proposed expansion areas and those who own adjacent property within 100 feet of the sites, Cupples said. The city also has notified the general public about continued hearings for the potential urban growth boundary expansion online and at each meeting.

Using the Cove

Seaside resident John Dunzer asked the Planning Commission to consider incorporating additional acres around the Cove area into the urban growth boundary.

Hanson said he does not think the area is optimal, with only one access point and limited acreage suitable for development.

Dunzer said he thinks the area has more developable property — about 55 acres — and at least one other way into the area. The Cove is an optimal location for the expansion because it would be a desirable place for new residents to settle, particularly as they are likely to be older retirees, he said.

As for the other sites, Dunzer said, he does not believe they meet "the needs of the people expected to move into this area."

To come to a conclusion about the Cove, Cupples, Hanson and Dunzer planned to meet at the site and evaluate its potential before reporting the information to the commission during its work session. If they decide to "seriously consider" using land near the Cove for the expansion, Hanson said, the city will need to send more notifications to adjacent property owners in that area.

The public hearing was continued to the commission's Feb. 2 meeting.



DAILY ASTORIAN/FILE PHOTO

Class of 2014 graduate Parker Riser gives Principal Sheila Roley a big hug while making his way across the stage after receiving his diploma during Seaside High School's 98th Commencement Exercise at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center.

Roley 'meant a lot to the district'

Roley from Page 1A

Dougherty, who is good friends with Roley, said her retirement did not come as a surprise, as they discussed it in prior conversations.

Even still, she has meant a lot to the district, he said. After working as a teacher in the Seattle area, Roley started in Seaside as a science teacher at Broadway Middle School. Then she completed the process to get her administrator license.

When Dougherty became superintendent for the district in 1998, he said, he selected her to replace him as the principal of Cannon Beach Elementary School and the kindergarten through 12th grade curriculum director. She then became principal of the middle school before moving into the position of high school principal in July 2007.

"(Roley) is one of those rare people who is unflappable," Dougherty said. "She clearly always has the school and students mind." Whatever is happening at her school, whether it is working on last-minute reports or dealing with student and staff issues, she is "always focused on the right thing," Dougherty said. Additionally, she is "one of those people who every school district looks to."

Not only has she been a mentor within the Seaside School District, but she's served that role in other districts, as well, he said.

The process to find her replacement will start soon, Dougherty, who announced his own retirement late last year, said.