

AtTheLibrary



PHOTOS BY R.J. MARX/THE DAILY ASTORIAN

Library Director Esther Moberg indicates where new signage could be located.

Seaside library to have new name

Mayor Larson's contributions to area lead to honor

By R.J. Marx
Seaside Signal



The Seaside Public Library building will be renamed after Mayor Don Larson.

He was the man holding the scissors at the 2008 ribbon-cutting for the Seaside Public Library.

Monday, Nov. 14, Mayor Don Larson received a place in Seaside's literary history as he was honored with the renaming of the library building at 1131 Broadway. Seaside city councilors made the decision based on the mayor's "numerous and extraordinary contributions to

local government leading to positive changes for the future of Oregon."

Councilors extolled the mayor's "extraordinary passion and visionary leadership to the city of Seaside."

The renaming came just before Larson announced his intention to step down as mayor after the second year of his fourth term.

"I did not know he was going to retire," Seaside Library

Director Esther Moberg said after the meeting. "That was a surprise."

Moberg said Larson and his wife, Lois, were instrumental in finding the right location for the building in 2008 and "have been great supporters of the library."

The resolution, adopted unanimously, recognizes Larson's major contributions to the library project, from the first discussion to construction and completion.

A sign for the Don Larson Building will be placed across the front of the library, Moberg said, "right over the door."

"The mayor said he wants it in lights," Moberg said. "We'll see what we can do."

Author shares Olympic experience

The Friends of the Seaside Library will host Carolyn Wood, author of "Tough Girl: An Olympian's Journey." The event will take place 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, with book sales and signings by Beach Books.

Carolyn Wood was born in Portland and swam for the Multnomah Athletic Club and Beaverton High School, where she won seven individual state championships in butterfly, freestyle and the individual medley. At the 1960 U.S. Olympic Trials, at the age of 14, she finished first in the 100-meter butterfly and was favored to win the gold medal in Rome. At the Olympics, during the women's 100-meter butterfly final, Carolyn swallowed water during the turn and did not finish the race. She did win a gold medal as a member of the wom-

en's 4 x 100-meter freestyle relay team, together with Joan Spillane, Shirley Stobs, and Chris von Saltza. The U.S. relay team set a new world record in the event final — nine seconds faster than the previous record. At 14, Wood was the youngest member of the 1960 U.S. Olympic team to win a medal.

Wood's story in "Tough Girl" details the training and commitment it took to become an Olympian at just 14 years old. She also tells of growing up in mid-century Portland, of being a closeted athlete, and of coming out and fighting for gay rights. It is the account of youthful dreams and exuberance, of struggle and the will to overcome obstacles in sport as well as in life.

Following the Olympics, Wood returned to her hometown of Portland and com-

pleted her studies at Beaverton High School. She attended the University of Oregon, became an English teacher and taught at both Beaverton and Wilson high schools. She was inducted into the Oregon

Sports Hall of Fame in 1992. "Tough Girl" is her first book.

Seaside Public Library is located at 1131 Broadway. For more information call 503-738-6742 or visit us at seassidelibrary.org.



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Local artist shows how to draw your own holiday greeting cards

"Holiday Botanical Greeting Card Class" with local artist and illustrator, Dorota Haber-Lehigh takes place 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, sponsored by the Friends of the Seaside Library. Sign-up is required. All materials will be provided.

Botanical illustration is the art of depicting the form, color, and details of plant species. These are often printed with a botanical description in books, magazines and other media.

Participants in this workshop will create a winter botanical card to celebrate the Holiday Season. Bring a plant, fruit, nut, flower, pine cone, winter berries, or any symbolic botanical item.

Haber-Lehigh received a bachelor of arts degree from Pacific University with a focus on printmaking and art history. She designed, illustrated and published a children's book titled "ABC of Native Plants of the Coastal Pacific Northwest" and is currently at work on books about native berries and wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest. She is also a member of the Oregon Botanical Artists and the Native Plant Society of Oregon.

Seaside Public Library is located at 1131 Broadway. For more information call 503-738-6742 or visit seassidelibrary.org.

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