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OUR 112th YEAR • May 11, 2018

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Let the games begin at Coast Color Dash in Gearhart on Saturday, April 28.

## A DASH OF COLORS

School event raises money for student activities

By R.J. Marx  
Seaside Signal

If you didn't want to end up painted and powdered, you needed to step lively in Gearhart on Saturday, April 28. Hundreds of elementary and middle-school students and their families shared color spraying, fun costumes, games and a barbecue, all to benefit the Gearhart and Seaside Heights elementary schools and Broadway Middle School, according to Gearhart PTO president Erin Jackson.

The Coast Color Dash, inspired by similar events in 35 countries and now in its second year in Gearhart, brought families to Gearhart Park for fun and games. Last year's event raised more than \$18,000.

Gearhart PTO member Stephanie Keranen enjoyed her second event as the sun held steady, amid delighted children and rainbows of dust.

"It's a good fundraiser, Keranen said. "Kids just love to get dirty and full of color, spraying it on each other, running around and spraying it on themselves. As they run through stations, people are spraying color on them trying to get as much color as possible."

What makes it so much fun?

"I like getting colored!" fourth-grader Kylie Keranen said without hesitation.



R.J. MARX/SEASIDE SIGNAL

Charlotte Rose Jorgensen and Maple at the Coast Color Dash.

## Seaside budget rises nearly 19 percent

But who will pay for school district water costs?

By R.J. Marx  
Seaside Signal

"We are busy," City Manager Mark Winstanley wrote in his annual budget message.

With construction projects underway, the city's budget jumped nearly 19 percent from 2017-18, with increases fueled by Seaside Civic and Convention Center renovation and citywide reconstruction projects. Members of the budget committee and City Council held their first meeting April 4 and passed the road district and urban renewal portions of the budget.

But conversations await about funding for infrastructure at the new Seaside School District campus. A water plant budgeted \$6 million comprises the bulk of the budget increase, but how it will be funded remains unclear.

"Many of these costs for these services will be borne by the city, but were not financed by the voter-approved bond issue for the

school," Winstanley wrote in delivering his annual budget message. "We will be discussing these projects and future financing needs."

### Big numbers jump

The city released a draft of its 2018-19 budget on Tuesday, May 1, a 150-page document showing a total of all funds surpassing \$44 million, a 19 percent increase from the 2017-18 budget.

"This year the budget is more about the message and less about the finances," he wrote. "Occasionally we decide to take a dif-

ferent route either by choice or necessity."

The different path of this year's budget, he said, "will lead to new tasks and different outcomes than we may have planned."

The general fund, which covers the business office, library, community center and nondepartmental expenses, will surpass \$2 million, a 5.7 percent increase from last year.

Public safety, including police, fire, court and lifeguards, presents the largest departmental budget of \$6.57 million.

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## Cost-cutting measures

School district revises new campus architectural plans

By R.J. Marx  
Seaside Signal

The Seaside School District scaled back architectural plans for the new campus in the Southeast Hills, officials said at a meeting of the district's construction oversight committee Tuesday. Architects have reduced the building footprint, square footage and added a third-floor to the middle- and high-school building to reduce foundation costs.

"Retaining walls are expensive," district superintendent Sheila Roley said.

Renovation plans for additions to Seaside Heights Elementary School are unaltered.

Students from schools relocating from within the tsunami inundation zone are expected to start classes in new facilities by September 2020.

"It's been quite an interesting process to take advantages of the site in the best way possible and stay true to the district's educational goals as well as the goals of the community," Dan Hess of BRIC Architecture said at the meeting. "They really wanted something special, not just a concrete bunker."

When early bids came in architects decided to modify plans to add a third story for the middle- and high-school building to provide stability on the hillside site. The modification eliminated about 15,000 square feet from the building.

"It's more expensive than a normal foundation," Hess said. "By making it smaller and taller, that was a cost-saving effort."

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## Flock to the Rock rides into Seaside

About 100 women gather for annual motorcycle conference

By Brenna Visser  
Seaside Signal

A lot has changed since Elspeth Beard rode her motorcycle around the world 36 years ago.

When a 23-year-old Beard became the first British woman to accomplish the feat, almost no one took notice. She did most of her trip in gear that didn't fit her, since companies had yet to make things like boots and jackets for women motorcyclists yet. It wasn't until almost 20 years later a motorcycle magazine took interest in her two-year journey across 20 countries and four continents.

But now, three-and-a-half de-



BRENNA VISSER/SEASIDE SIGNAL

Motorcycles lined up at "Flock to the Rock."

acades later, Beard not only has been recognized, but has written a book, "Lone Rider," chronicling her adventures, and is traveling to places like Seaside to share her story.

"It's still a male world, and it takes a long time for that to change," Beard said. "But now there's a gen-

eration who has seen women riding motorcycles as a perfectly acceptable thing to do."

Beard was a keynote speaker at the second annual "Flock to the Rock," an event centered around

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