

SEASIDE Signal



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R.J. MARX
Jan and Jay Barber after election results were delivered Tuesday night.

Seaside voters choose Barber

Mayor promises to follow-through on housing issues, school infrastructure

By R.J. Marx
Seaside Signal

“Let Seaside Keep Its Mayor,” read the lawn signs throughout the city. Voters heard the request, as Mayor Jay Barber on Tuesday defeated challenger John Chapman, owner and operator of KSWB Productions LLC/Radio Clatsop.

Barber, a former city councilor who filled the vacant seat of the late former Mayor Don Larson in 2016, has lived in Seaside for 11 years. The former president of Warner Pacific University and pastor of a community church in Red Bluff, California, Barber and his wife, Jan, have four grown children and five grandsons.

With all members of the City Council returning next year, Barber seeks continuity to pursue projects already underway, including a \$15 million Seaside Civic and Convention Center remodel, urban renewal and providing city infrastructure to relocate schools outside the tsunami inundation zone.

“I really appreciate the faith the voters have expressed by voting for me,” Barber said after taking 60.1 percent of the vote to Chapman’s 37.8 percent. “I look forward to

working with our council, which stays intact as well for the next four years. We live in a great city, and we’ve got a future ahead. I’m honored to be able to serve.”

City Council

City Councilors Steve Wright, Tita Montero and Dana Phillips each ran unopposed in Ward 1, Ward 2, and Ward 3 and 4.

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FUTURE LEADERS



During the 2018 Oregon Association of Student Councils fall conference in Seaside, hundreds of students from across the state spent time at Seaside High School for workshops and idea sharing on Sunday, Nov. 4.

Student councils come to convention center

By Katherine Lacaze
For Seaside Signal

What do roughly 1,350 high school students talk about when they get together? At the 2018 Oregon Association of Student Councils fall conference in Seaside, topics of conversation included how to be proactively kind leaders, building connections, mental health issues, and servant leader-

ship, to name a few.

The theme of this year’s conference, which took place Nov. 4 and 5, was “Constructing Leaders.” The idea behind the theme, according to the association’s executive director Sara Nilles, is that “we’re all under construction.”

“We’re here trying to improve ourselves as leaders and we’re trying to work to improve our schools,” she added. “We’re do-

ing the best we can with what we have. Just like in construction, you’re working to improve.”

The conference fills the Seaside Civic and Convention Center to maximum capacity — 1,500 — with about 1,350 high school students and 150 faculty advisers from 105 Oregon high schools. This year,

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Smith in Gearhart

Kerry Smith wins; city, county pot taxes pass

By R.J. Marx
Seaside Signal

City Councilor Kerry Smith won re-election on Tuesday night to Position 1, defeating challenger Jack Zimmerman.

“I would like to thank the voters of Gearhart for giving me the opportunity to represent them again,” Smith said after winning 69.4 percent of the vote to Zimmerman’s 29.3 percent. “I appreciate their faith in my work and what I have accomplished in the last four years. ... As we move forward, I renew my commitment to listening to my constituents and directing Gearhart in a positive direction.”

Smith is an independent contractor and has lived in Gearhart for 33 years. He started his own business 26 years ago and primarily has done home remodels in Gearhart and Seaside. He has served as a city councilor since 2014.

Smith has called a new fire station the city’s most important concern. The existing fire station, built in 1958 and liable to collapse and flood during a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake and tsunami, is the topic of years of conversation.

City Councilor Paulina Cockrum, who was unopposed, won re-election to Position 3.

Cockrum, a Gearhart resident since 1976, served on the Planning Commission before her appointment to the council in 2015. Her goal is to “practice stewardship and work to make Gearhart a better place when I leave than when I started.”

City, county cannabis taxes

Two measures designed to put areas of Clatsop County under state limits for marijuana taxation went before voters.

County voters approved Measure 4-193, which would impose a 3 percent tax on marijuana sales in unincorporated Clatsop County after county commissioners adopted the 3 percent tax. The tax is the maximum a county government body can impose under Oregon law. The vote brings the county into line with taxes imposed by most other cities in Clatsop County

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Foundation’s Festival is premier holiday event

By Katherine Lacaze
For Seaside Signal

One of the most anticipated local events of the winter season, Providence Seaside Hospital Foundation’s Festival of Trees not only provides an opportunity for family fun as well as an elegant gala to kick off the holidays but will also raise money to renovate the hospital’s emergency care facilities.

“Everybody looks forward to this event,” said Kimberly Ward, executive director of the foundation. “We like to refer to it as the premier holiday event, because it’s always the first weekend of December, and it’s a really great way to kick off the season.”

The 21st annual Festival of Trees, sponsored by Providence and Safeway, will take place Friday, Nov. 30, through Saturday, Dec. 1, at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center. This year’s theme “Wonder,” is a spin off the concept of the advent calendar, and it en-



capsulates “the expectation and excitement of Christmas,” Ward said.

Better emergency care

The funds raised at this year’s Festival of Trees will go toward Beyond 911: A Campaign to Expand Emergency Care, one of the most ambitious fundraising endeavors the foundation has undertaken, according to Ward. During the past year, the foundation has been working to raise \$1.5 million toward

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PROVIDENCE SEASIDE HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Oregon Region Foundation President Laurie Kelley; Providence Seaside Hospital Foundation Director Kimberly Ward and development specialist/event coordinator Meaghan Triana.