



## Bollywood in Seaside!

Brittany Newton leads the sixth-grade class at Broadway Middle School in Seaside in a dance routine.

Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

## AAUW, Signal to present school board candidate's forum

Seaside Signal

Seaside, Gearhart and Cannon Beach residents will get a chance to hear what this year's school board candidates have to say about the Seaside School District's key issues. They'll be attending a forum on Tuesday, April 30, at the Broadway Middle School Library.

District Superintendent Sheila Roley shared the importance of the role school board members serve. "We would really like our great community to have the opportunity to see the candidates and hear from them, their perspectives on how to lead our schools."

The American Association of University Women has always been involved with education, Seaside president Cindy Gould said. "If we have a strong education system, then we have a strong community," Gould said.

Board members make the community even stronger, she said.

"Part of our mission is women and girls, but education is our biggest thrust," the association's Karen Beck added. "It's part of our mission statement."

The event is organized by the Seaside Signal and the Seaside American Association of University Women, and will be introduced by Cindy Gould. Roley will offer remarks, along with members of the high school's Associated Student Body.

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## Dance group brings Seaside students to their feet

By KATHERINE LACAZE  
For Seaside Signal

An empty school gymnasium assumes an electrifying ambience when filled with hundreds of young students moving together in something resembling unison while high-tempo Indian pop music pulses throughout the space.

Such an effect was generated numerous times April 4 and 5 when the Heights Elementary School, Gearhart Elementary School and Broadway Middle School received a unique visit from Bollywood Dreams Entertainment and its entourage of professional dancers.

Prashant Kakad, founder of the Portland-based company, and dancers Brittany Newton — who hails from Seaside — and Elliot Miller spent hours teaching more than 1,000 students in kindergarten through eighth grade a dance routine. The students then demonstrated their routines during a community Bollywood Dance Night, put on at Seaside High School the evening of April 5.

"This is really unique because (the students) get to learn the dances, but then they have an opportunity to come together and be part of the community and dance and perform and show their family and friends what they learned," Kakad said.



Prashant Kakad talks to the sixth-grade class at Broadway Middle School about Bollywood-style dancing.

Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

His company primarily focuses on hosting dance parties in major cities throughout the United States, leading workshops, working private events, and offering weekly dance classes in Portland. They also produce original music, along with remixes

and mashups. Bringing Bollywood dance and music to educational institutions is an uncommon, yet meaningful experience for Kakad and his team.

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## School district alters Heights gym plan

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside Signal

Faced with rising construction costs and a shortage of labor, Seaside School District Superintendent Sheila Roley and project manager Jim Henry presented designs for a new freestanding gymnasium and covered play area at Seaside Heights Elementary School.

The original plan, part of the \$100 million bond approved by voters to move schools out of the tsunami inundation zone, had been to leave the Seaside Heights building "as is," Roley said, and maintain the existing gymnasium.

The new freestanding 6,000-square-foot gymnasium, designed for elementary physical education classes, will feature regulation high school basketball courts, offices and restrooms.

The modification could save the district \$500,000, Henry said.

Plans for a classroom wing building on the west edge of the site have been replaced by new wing of six-to-eight classrooms on the north side of the Heights building, including

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## 'TO ME, DANCE IS A WAY TO BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER THAT DOESN'T INVOLVE WORDS OR IDEOLOGY. THEY CAN CONNECT ON A DIFFERENT LEVEL!'

Mary Bess Gloria, local naturopathic doctor and artist who orchestrated the Bollywood experience for Seaside students

## The ancient art of henna design comes alive in Seaside

Five Star Henna opens in new location

By EVE MARX  
For Seaside Signal

"Seaside is where it's all happening," said Sandy Palmer, artist in chief and proprietor of Five Star Henna, from her new location in Seaside.

Palmer, a northern Californian, was a window painter who fell hard for henna after watching a YouTube video.

During a vacation to Seaside two years ago, she determined to move here and open a henna studio.

"We do temporary tattoos, air-brush, stencil; we'll feather and wrap your hair," Palmer said. "We do face-painting for little

kids, and we're looking to hire a piercer."

Sarah, her daughter, also works in the shop and helped design the cool décor. Five Star Henna is an enchanting place to hang out; while you're waiting your turn under the magical henna tent, check out the cool merch — groovy incense, 3D tapestry, and energy clearing sage sticks.

Henna, for those not in the know, is a natural, organic dye made from the powdered leaves of a tropical shrub. For hundreds of years it's been used for body decoration; Cleopatra wore it. Eastern Indians elevated henna



Eve Marx

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Sandy Palmer wants you to have the best possible experience at Five Star Henna.