

The Heights: Gym

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Getting steel was delayed because of supply and demand in the market, but “that’s all up,” he said.

Heat goes on in the building next week.

“The Heights has been a bit of a challenge because we’re touching so many parts of the building with students in,” he said. “We’re working around summer schedule, different breaks as well as sequencing the work as we move around the site.”

Modular classrooms are ready to be installed with equipment and furniture to be moved in over Christmas break, he said.

During the gap of time before the gym is complete, a temporary gym structure that “looks like a loaf of bread with a steel truss inside,” will be placed in the parking lot.

The permanent Heights gym should be done by

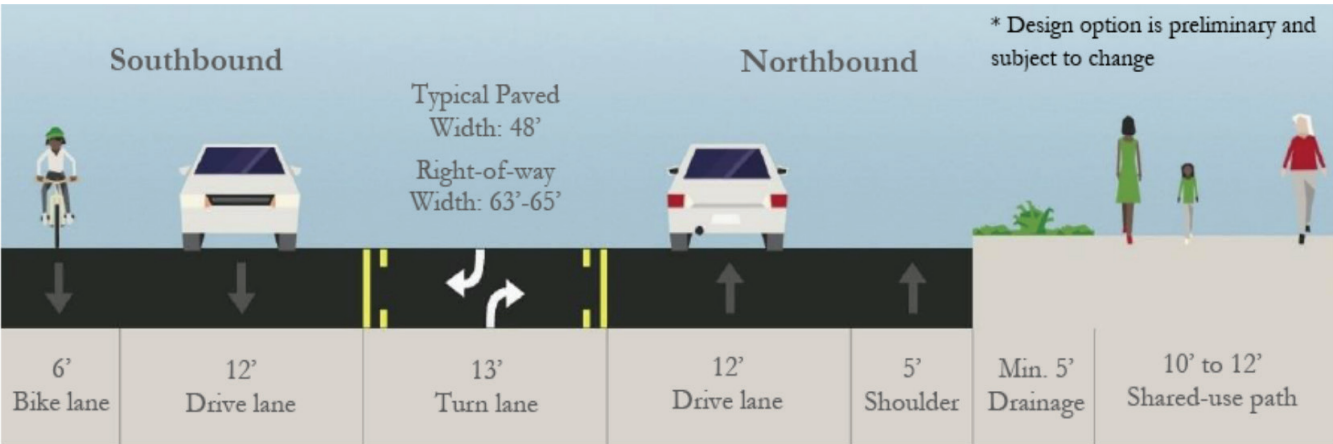
SCHOOLS FOR SALE

The district has received “several offers” on school properties, Henry added. “We haven’t closed anything, we haven’t signed anything, but we’re in discussion.”

spring break, Henry said.

The project, now budgeted at more than \$123 million, is on track for a fall opening. “We’re just putting all our priority in getting this building open on time,” district superintendent Sheila Roley said. “We’ll take a lot of deep breaths to navigate the next six months.”

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City of Gearhart Transportation System Plan
Gearhart Transportation System Plan U.S. Highway 101 reconfiguration plan. Sidewalks and drainage may be farther depending on availability of funds, Gearhart City Administrator Chad Sweet said The changes to the lane configuration may be done by removing the existing paint and reapplying the new configuration without changes to the asphalt.

Highway 101: Gearhart, ODOT eye reconfiguration

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Consultants prioritized investments with four tiers, from the \$1.2 million likely to be available through existing funding sources to a more than \$20 million wish list that exceeds the likely level of city and state funding through 2040.

Seventy-five potential projects are listed in the plan, which outlines pol-

icies and projects considered important to protecting and enhancing the quality of life in Gearhart.

For Highway 101, the plan presents an option for the new configuration through most of Gearhart, with additional lanes at intersections as needed.

Traffic safety and emergency evacuation is a key concern to city leaders, given their role in moving people during emergencies, such as a tsunami.

“We’re still having internal conversations on whether this could be done with striping, if it needs to be a part of a paving project, or if it needs to be part of another project,” Shonkwiler said. “We’re still really in the beginning of this. We know the direction right now. We’re just trying to find out the details.”

Artist: Work is ‘entertaining and larger than life’

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Why drag queens?

“Why not?” Montero said. “They’re entertaining and they’re bigger than life.”

Montero makes the felt herself. It’s a process. The drag queens are all sewn. There is no glue. And what they’re wearing, like hats and jewelry, well, Montero makes all their ornamentation, too.

The best place to see the queens is SunRose Gallery on Broadway in Seaside where they are for sale, along with other items hand-crafted by Montero.

“I have learned to expect the unexpected when it comes to my SunRose artists, and Robin’s theme of needle felted drag queens certainly fit the bill!” said Cathy Tippin. “Knowing how meticulous her craftsmanship is, how thoroughly she researches and plans out each design, how she prepares the wool and pains-

takingly sculpts her artistic vision in 3-D, I knew her show would be different and amazing, and she lived up to that.”

Tippin observed customers immediately appreciating Montero’s joyful, witty take on drag culture.

“They move in for a close look and then I see their faces light up in amused fascination as they realize how creatively each panel expounds on their clever drag names,” Tippin said. “Misty Meanor” and her stylized police hat; “Lucky Charm” portrayed in the lucky Asian colors gold, green and red; her earring, the number 8; lucky flower cherry blossoms for her bodice; and of course all of the queens are ‘dragging’ on a smoldering cigarette.”

Tippin said successful art elicits emotion. “That’s how we connect to it. Over all the years we have represented Robin, (SunRose owner) Ray (Coffey) and I have witnessed amazing connections

with her art, because of her thoughtful imagination and amazing felting skills. We’re happy she chooses to show her felted sculptures and jewelry with us.”

And then there is Poseidon.

“He’s a handsome devil, isn’t he?” Montero said. “Poseidon was my first sculptural wool-felting piece. I had needle-felted a flat face before, but wanted to push the boundaries of what I didn’t know. I love the depth of bas relief. I wanted to see if I could felt a man that represented the ocean.”

She said she originally thought of doing Neptune and was trying to incorporate the associated iconic trident, but it just didn’t draw out well.

“Greek Poseidon is essentially the same god as Neptune,” Montero said, “Most folks don’t necessarily associate him with the trident.”

She said he was a challenge because she didn’t know how nor could find a technique on how to achieve a 3-D bas relief look, Montero said. “Working with felt, fiber and a barbed needle is not even remotely like working with clay or wax where you can build your layers with an extra pinch of medium or chipping away at a block of marble. In fiber, you have to visualize the depth and projection to achieve an anatomically correct balance and begin the process from the back of the subject and work forward. When looking from the side of the piece it would be a failure to have the eyebrow bone project out further than the cheek or ear. That ear! Ah, dimensional details.”

She said creating Poseidon taught her patience and new sculptural techniques she would have never obtained if she chose to play it safe. “Life’s too short to be boring.”

SEPRD: Five seek seat

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at the December board meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 17.

Pool reopens Monday

After a more than one-month closure, pools are filled and ready for reopening Monday, Nov. 25.

The closure came after the learner pool failed to comply with Oregon Health Authority code for public water systems, leading to the possibility of cross contamination between the learner pool and main pool. Work will be completed Sunday night or Monday morning, Archibald said.

The learner pool, spa and lap pool have all been replastered. (See “Sky Box,” p. 5 for more details). Included in those lengthy shutdowns have been upgrades or added underwater lighting in both bodies of water and added drainage for when a heavy bather load occurs.

The entire filtration sys-

tem for the lap pool has been replaced, allowing the district to keep a cleaner and more efficient body of water.

Project work is estimated at about \$90,000

Thanksgiving events

The rec district hosts the annual 5k fun run/walk Thanksgiving Day beginning at Quatat Park behind the Seaside Civic and Convention Center. The event started in 2015 with 30 runners, recreation and programs manager Grace Lee told the rec district board Tuesday.

“Last year we had 300 runners and we expect it to keep growing,” she said. “We’re going to need a bigger route. That’s a great problem to have.”

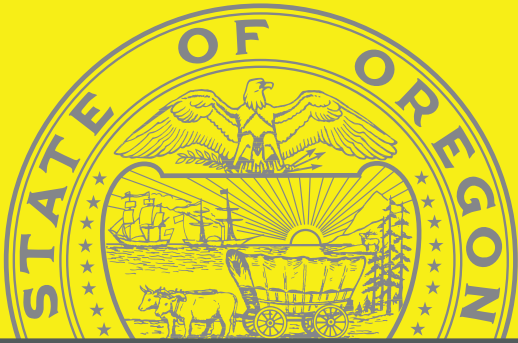
Registration begins at 8 a.m.; the run starts at 9.

Cost is \$10 per participant and a T-shirt is included.

The Community Thanksgiving takes place at noon at the Bob Chisholm Community Center.

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