

Seaside joins the North Coast Food Trail

City finds its place on the map

Starting next month, and continuing throughout 2020, Seaside will join Cannon Beach and Tillamook County on the award-winning North Coast Food Trail, a self-guided itinerary for travelers seeking locally sourced and sustainability-minded experiences.

From fishers and food processors to restaurants and beverage makers, the Food Trail's mission is to highlight and promote such opportunities and to establish the North Coast region as a food-from-the-source destination. Although the program is entering its third year, this will be Seaside's entrance as a destination on the trail and it's looking like we'll have seven locations representing three categories to start.

SISU Beer and Seaside Brewery will represent the beverage makers category, as both spots brew a variety of quality beers onsite in noteworthy historical structures.



Seaside will soon be added to the list of cities included in the Northwest Food Trail.

Naturally, Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District's Seaside Farmers Market, open June through September, will represent the farmers market category.

The Restaurants and Retail category in Seaside will see representation from Dough Dough Bakery, Maggie's on the Prom, the Osprey Café, and Sea

Star Gelato. Qualifying participation means, at minimum, 25 percent of menu items and products sold are locally sourced within 100 miles.

The popular North Coast Food Trail brochure is carried by all official State Welcome Centers (like the Seaside Visitors Bureau) and in tourism-heavy locations throughout the region. Participating businesses will also show up in multiple ways on the program's website and map — northcoastfoodtrail.com — and be included in social media campaigns, as well as in any promo videos made in the next year. Moreover, they'll benefit from the continued coverage of the North Coast Food Trail (which won a Sunset Magazine Travel Award in 2019) as it has racked up more than \$2.1 million in earned media since launch, including TV features and more than one magazine cover story.

This time next year, assuming participant feedback is positive, we'll look to expand the program to other qualifying spots in

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Seaside and cement our growing reputation as a fun and food destination. Astoria has shown general interest in bringing the trail up to their agricultural attractions, too, which would make the program truly representative of the North Coast and aligned well with the mar-

keting partnership that's existed between Astoria, Cannon Beach and Seaside for several years now.

At the end of the day, Seaside makes a perfect home base for longer-stay explorations of the North Coast's beautiful stretch of land and sea, and those adventurers are going to be hungry.

Got a tourism-related comment or question? I'd love to hear from you. Write me at jheineman@cityof-seaside.us.

Teachers who influenced my life

I hinted in last month's article that I was not an athletic child growing up, nor a particularly academic student for that matter.

The classes I liked most were the art classes offered during middle and high school. I can't recall many of the teachers' names I had throughout those 12 years, but I remember Molly O'Judge and Ken Jacobsen.

Molly was my middle school art teacher. I remember she had a small farm outside of Salem and raised sheep. She brought in bags of wool and taught us how to wash and "card" it using two brushes, much like the ones you might groom your dog with.

We hand-dyed the wool with natural pigments from onion skins and dried flowers, then learned to spin it into yarn using an old spinning wheel handed down to her by her grandmother. We spent a couple of weeks carving linoleum squares and making block print Christmas cards. These were just a couple of the amazing things I learned during my seventh and eighth grade years under Molly's tutelage.

When I got to high school, art was still a focus for me and a great outlet for my creative energy. My first semester I enrolled in a beginning pottery class, which began a lifelong interest in ceramics.

Ken Jacobsen was the pottery

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teacher at the time, and has taught at the high school for a number of years prior and many years after I graduated.

Eventually I offered to spend a period every semester as an aide in the classroom, something we were allowed to do when we reached our junior year.

As an aide, I learned how to mix glazes, load the kiln, and how to use a "pug mill." For those unfamiliar with pottery terms, a "pug mill" is a machine that takes clay scraps, water, and dry clay powder and combines them to form recycled clay that we bagged and stored.

I learned a great deal from Ken and a number of us in the classes were able to show some of our art pieces at the Bush Barn Art Center in Salem.

I found Ken about six years ago by random chance in a YouTube video where he was talking about his career and passion for the ceramic arts.

He and several other retired art teachers from the Salem area had worked together to develop the Wil-

lamette Art Center located at the Oregon State Fairgrounds.

I was able to find his email address and reached out to him to tell him how much I appreciated everything he taught me during those four years of high school.

I came to the park district in 2003 when my wife and I moved to the area. A few months later I was approached by my supervisor about developing a pottery program here at the Bob Chisholm Community Center.

I readily accepted the idea as we already had the studio space and a kiln. We started with two classes, one morning session and one evening. Sixteen years and five weekly classes later, we have a thriving community of pottery students in the program and two amazing instructors with a vast amount of knowledge and experience.

If you're like me, academic achievement didn't come easily, or naturally for that matter. Art was my outlet and played to my strengths. If you are searching for your creative outlet, perhaps our pottery program would be a great place to start. The first class is always free to try, so come by and see if ceramic arts is where your passion lays!

Every month, The BOB will bring you information on current events and items of interest here at the center. See you next month!

Community Thanksgiving Meal



Photos by Shannon Symonds

Leslie Tracy, Jan Barber and Seaside Mayor Jay Barber at the Community Thanksgiving Dinner at the Chisholm Center.



Ian Kirby, Xcaret Bello and Andrea Castro, volunteers from Seaside High School Future Business Leaders of America, at the community Thanksgiving Meal at the Bob Chisholm Center.



From right, Sunny Davy, Doug Barker, Gracie Trnavskis, Gini Dideum and Skyler Archibald serve up dinner.

The annual Community Thanksgiving Meal at the Bob Chisholm Community Center served turkey with all the trimmings to holiday guests and visitors. The meal was provided in partnership with Helping Hands Re-entry Outreach Centers, the city of Seaside, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Escape Lodging, the Seaside Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club of Seaside.

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