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Gearhart delivers virus relief to 24 small businesses

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

Gearhart invited businesses to apply for COVID-19 financial relief, distributing \$2,000 of \$40,000 available to each of the first 20 businesses that qualified.

With 24 applications, the city raised that amount, voting to pull an additional \$8,000 from the city's general fund to distribute \$48,000. Each business will receive \$2,000.

"Since they are all in Gearhart, and all affected by COVID-19 we should accept all 24 and divide the money accordingly," City Councilor Kerry Smith said.

Relief fund money was to be used for unbudgeted virus-related expenditures incurred between March 1 and Dec. 30. Businesses must have spent the money before year's end.

The money is part of funds delivered to the state by the federal government during the coronavirus pandemic. The CARES Act, signed into law in late March, provides financial assistance to individuals, businesses, community organizations and state and local governments.

In November, the City Council allocated \$40,000 in grant funds to businesses and \$10,000 to the city to pay for personal protective equipment and ventilation upgrades at public buildings.

Last week, the council approved the fund transfer and distribution. City Councilor Dan Jesse abstained as his business was among those to receive grant money.

"Two thousand dollars is better for a small business that's been struggling than \$1,600," City Councilor Brent Warren said. "They've been tightening belts for the last year and we can come up with \$8,000 somewhere in the budget."

GEARHART SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF FUND RECIPIENTS

- 1 Dan Jesse Construction Inc
- 2 Matt's Window Tinting
- 3 Gearhart Iron Den
- 4 Great Wall Restaurant
- 5 The Sweet Shop
- 6 Studio 620
- 7 Gearhart Indoor Dog Park
- 8 Watch Me Grow
- 9 The Trophy Case
- 10 Borland Coastal Electric
- 11 Gearhart Bowl & Fultanos Pizza
- 12 J.L. French Construction Inc
- 13 Pacific Crest Cottage
- 14 Three Treasures Acupuncture
- 15 Pacific Mini Storage
- 16 Terry Bacon LLC
- 17 Gearhart Contract Postal Unit (aka Gearhart Post Office)
- 18 Coast Family Law LLC
- 19 Blossoms by the Sea
- 20 The Hair Shoppe
- 21 Mane Connection
- 22 El Trio Loco
- 23 Sunshine Teriyaki
- 24 The Natural Nook



Gary Henley/The Astorian

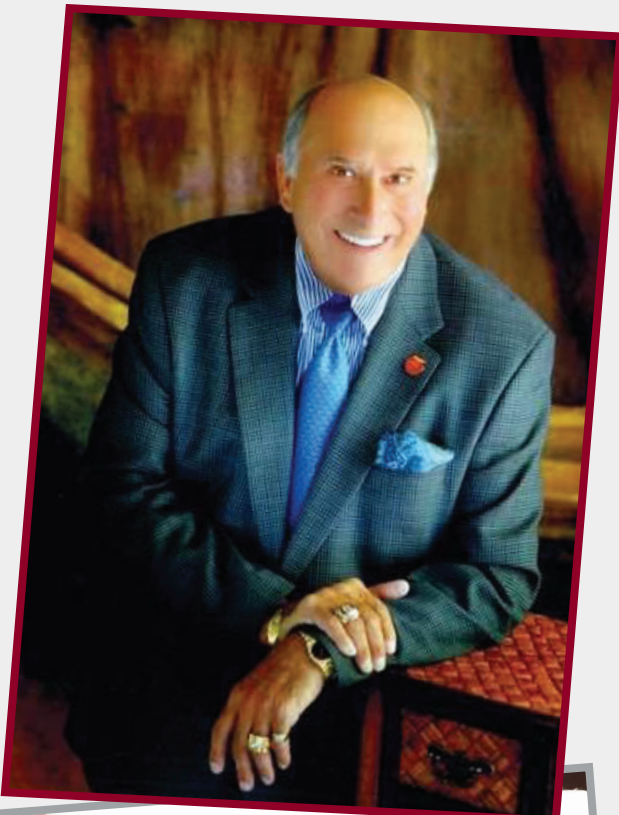
Farewell, Coach Lyons

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

Stubby Lyons, a former coach and civic leader in Seaside who led the Gulls to a football state title in 1994, died on Christmas Day.

Lyons, 86, was a community leader as a teacher, coach, city councilor and volunteer, advocating for downtown improvements, a skate park for teens, a new public library, a city parks master plan and the Pearl Harbor Memorial Bridge.

Elected to the City Council in 2000, Lyons served until stepping down in 2014. "He was the Pied Piper of the youth of



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Lyons returns to Seaside as head football coach
BY JEREMY C. RUARK
Seaside Signal

"I am walking on air," said Stubby Lyons. "It is just a real thrill. It is something that I missed."

Lyons, 75, was recently named as head football coach at Seaside High School. The Seaside School Board proved Boyd's recommendations at its regular board meeting June 17.

"Stubby was one of the two applicants we interviewed," said Boyd. "We felt the best fit. The high school search committee felt he had the best knowledge of football. He also has a proven record of doing well and we really feel that about kids."

Director [name] and three [name]

From top to bottom: Stubby Lyons fires up kids on his return to coaching in 2010. Stubby Lyons in 2009. Stubby Lyons returned to coaching in 2010. Sharee and Stubby Lyons at their Seaside home.

R.J. Marx

Park district strikes deal on middle school

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

The Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District will buy the former Broadway Middle School for \$2.15 million.

"It's a historic day for the district and the community," said Michael Hinton, a park district board member, at a meeting on Monday. "I believe they will see the benefit of this in the not-too-distant future."

Hinton, the district's longest-serving board member, made the motion to purchase the former school. Board president Katharine Parker and Su Coddington, Celeste Bodner and Erika Marshall joined in the unanimous vote.

"I truly believe that park and rec provides a crucial service to our community," Parker said. "By adding indoor play space and indoor recreating space, we create the heart of Seaside right there."

In September, the board authorized Skyler Archibald, the park district's executive director, to work with a real estate agent and deliver an offer to the Seaside School District.

The park district and school district agreed to a price of \$2.25 million in October. Following inspection reports, the park district issued a bid of \$1.25 million which was rejected without a counteroffer. The park district revised their offer upward to \$1.75 million. After a counteroffer of \$2.15 million, the park district board authorized Archibald to meet the price.

The offer has been presented to the school district already, Archibald said after the meeting, with a final closing date

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YEAR IN REVIEW

Park district gets new board, middle school purchase

Seaside Signal

In a normal year, Sunset Pool, the fitness center, youth center, Bob Chisholm Community Center, Mary Blake Playhouse and Broadway Field would be busy with spring activities.

But 2020 was anything but normal for the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District. Sunset Pool was closed for parts of the year because of the coronavirus and events were put on hold. Fifty of 57 employees were laid off. The Bob Chisholm Community Center limited activities to the city's senior meal program, and child care was reduced to serving only emergency child care needs, for first responders and essential workers.

At the same time, the district looked to the future, developing a new strategic plan, updated policies and procedures and a proposed purchase of the former Broadway Middle School from the Seaside School District, which the park district is set to buy for \$2.15 million. The

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New school campus debuts as learning went digital

By KATHERINE LACAZE
For Seaside Signal

The Seaside School District reinvented itself in more ways than one in 2020.

A new high school and middle school campus and renovation of the former Seaside Heights Elementary, a new superintendent, and new ways of educating students marked a season of personnel change, construction and response to the coronavirus pandemic, which closed schools to in-person classes and intro-

duced distance learning. Pacifica Projects, traditionally a rite of passage for seniors, were canceled. Team sports never happened, and extracurricular activities were limited.

This was also the first time Seaside seniors ever participated in a graduation ceremony in their cars from the Turnaround and the parking lot of the Seaside Civic and Convention Center.

New superintendent
Heading into the 2020-21 school year, the district's board of directors officially handed the reins to incoming superintendent Susan Penrod on July 1, while

transferring former superintendent Sheila Roley to administrator for special projects for the final six months of her 30-year tenure in the district.

A graduate of Willamette University, Penrod's past experience included pre-kindergarten work, career and technical education, and various educational jobs throughout the state.

Penrod, formerly K-12 curriculum administrator at the Eugene School District, joined the Seaside School District in 2019 as assistant superintendent to support Roley until the official transition.



Jeff Ter Har

Gravin Rich opens his arms to embrace the future at Seaside High School's Class of 2020 graduation.

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