

Peace Tree: Gingko seeds pass on legacy of peace

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She received seeds of camphors, camellias, Asian persimmons and ginkgo trees from the international nonprofit Green Legacy Hiroshima, collected from trees that had survived the atom bomb.

In the spring of 2017, Tamura-Snider gave the seeds to arborist Michael Oxendine in Ashland to germinate. Under Oxendine's care the seeds have grown into seedlings. With no facilities to care for the seedlings in Ashland, Oxendine appealed to Oregon Community Trees and the Oregon Department of Forestry to help find homes for the trees. They presented the opportunity to cities throughout Oregon.

"The story was amazing that they collected seedlings after the bomb dropped and they were fertile," Fleming said. "It's a message of hope."

The board's application with the state was "quite extensive," Fleming said. "We had to give them maps of where we were going to put it, we had to assure them it was being taken care of."

The city got word they had been accepted to the Peace tree program in late November.

Fleming picked the tree up in Tillamook earlier this month.

Right now, it's about a 3-foot tree in a 5-gallon container she said. While they grow slowly, ginkgos "do great here," Fleming said. "We have them on Holladay and we have no irrigation or anything. They can take the salt."

At its height, the ginkgo tree could measure 30-feet-high and 45-feet-tall — which, Fleming adds quickly, does not mean it will do that on the coast "because everything on the coast doesn't get as big."

With Public Works Director Dale McDowell, Fleming walked the grounds of Cartwright Park to see where they could put it. They couldn't plant in the park's field or near the swings, or under power lines — and sites by the side of the road proved problematic. They settled on a south area of the park where a potential row of trees could be planted. Advantages included a privacy barrier for neighboring housings, "something nice to look at" and some diversity to the existing evergreen canopy. "If we add deciduous like maples or ginkgo, which is gold, it would be beautiful here and it would have plenty of room to grow."

The plaque will arrive in early March, Fleming said. Seaside's ginkgo is dif-



Oregon Department of Forestry
Hideko Tamura-Snider, center, brought seeds to Oregon that were collected from trees that survived the atom bombing of Hiroshima in 1945. A bombing survivor herself, she got Oregon Community Trees board member Mike Oxendine, left, to germinate the seeds.



R.J. Marx
Pam Fleming and Vineeta Lower of the Seaside Tree Board at the proposed site of the Peace tree planting at Cartwright Park.

FROM HIROSHIMA TO SEASIDE

Oregon Community Trees and Oregon Department of Forestry solicited applications and determined recipients, verified public locations, and assisted with the care of and delivery of the seedlings. The Green Legacy Project in Japan procured the seeds from the Hiroshima bomb survivor trees. The One Sunny Day Initiative in Medford initiated the propagation of the trees, provides the plaques and distribution.



ferent in one way from other trees, Kristin Ramsstad of the Oregon Department of Forestry said. Its seedling is neither a natural nor a cultivated variety; it is genetically distinct from all of the other ginkgo Peace trees that will be planted around Oregon this spring, including those already

planted in Lake Oswego, Hillsboro and Medford.

"It's very symbolic," Lower, who is a candidate in the Republican primary for the state's House 32 seat, said. "That was a time in our past that we don't need to go back to. We need to go beyond that and bring peace and unity

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Vineeta Lower

amongst us all. I think it's a great gesture and a great memorial."

Self-defense: Adamson Bros teaches the art of Jiu Jitsu

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are available.

More than 100 students are enrolled, ranging in age from three to 75. The academy offers introductory classes, intermediate classes and advanced training and education. Classes are mixed. Right now the academy has about 50 women in training. Many of the adult students work in law enforcement.

The brothers are well-traveled, participating and attending martial arts competitions and trainings in far-flung corners of the world; through their travels they've invited international visitors from all over the globe to stay in Seaside for a month at a time and teach at the academy.

The academy is also multilingual.

"We have instructors who speak German, Spanish, even Arabic," Zach said.

"We're creating family here," Nate said. "Most people train three times a week. We have fun."

Many students travel over an hour to train at the academy, he said, from Washing-



Eve Marx
Nate and Zach Adamson are Adamson Bros Jiu Jitsu.

ton, along the coast and the Portland area. The Adamson Bros. are respected in their field.

"Jiu jitsu is a lifestyle I've felt the benefits of first hand for 15 years," Zach said. "I love helping people achieve their personal goals and dreams."

Nate called jiu jitsu "a sport, a self-defense and a complete lifestyle. It helps people grow tremendously as individuals while instilling friendship and teamwork. Our academy is dedicated to building a better community, as well as better human beings."

For more information about instructors and classes, call 503-738-4080 or check them out on Facebook, or visit www.orbj.com.

"Give us two hours a week and we can transform you," Zach said. "Plus, this is a great place to network."

School sale: With price reduction, interest grows

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Seaside School District will use the property through the summer, as Gearhart students begin classes in the renovated Heights Elementary in September.

Even marked down from \$1.9 million to \$1.2 million, the city is "not in a position" to purchase the school site, Sweet said. Reserve funds are limited to "a couple of hundred thousand," and an expendi-

ture of anything more than \$100,000 would have to be approved by voters. "Right now, our priority is the fire station."

A proposal for a bond for a new fire station at the High Point site on North Marion is under discussion, possibly for the May ballot.

But the recent price reduction at Gearhart Elementary has stimulated interest in the property, Sweet said. "There's starting to be some activity with that new price."

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