



LOCAL FLAVOR



Heidi Janke, Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association
John Messinger prepares a dish at the Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association event in Salem.

Seaside High School culinary team scores third in statewide competition

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

Seaside High School chefs came in third Monday at the Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association Education Foundation's statewide competition in Salem.

Culinary instructor Chelsea Archibald brought seniors Jacie Gregory and John Messinger and junior Audrey O'Donnell. Students worked alongside chef mentors John Newman of Newmans at 988 in Cannon Beach, Chris Holen of Baked Alaska in Astoria and Geoff Gunn from Pacific Way Cafe in Gearhart.

"I'm very proud of our team," Archibald said Tuesday. "We had the smallest team there and were complimented by one of the judges as being the

most calm and having the most fun."

Seaside was among 33 Oregon high schools and 3,800 students participating in culinary programs. Nine of those schools sent teams to this year's Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association Educational Foundation ProStart Invitational, sponsored by Sysco.

The three student chefs "rallied together to complete all three dishes within the time frame," Archibald said. "Their communication and execution was the best they have exhibited thus far."

Three teams develop a unique restaurant concept and present it to a panel of judges at a simulated business presentation during the management competition. Chef judges evaluated culinary teams on taste, presentation, knife skills and teamwork.

Seaside students presented a locally

sourced menu including sea scallops, duck and huckleberries, as well as vegetables and edible flowers from the high school garden.

In receiving third place, each Seaside chef received a new knife and \$14,000 in scholarships to culinary schools.

More than \$570,000 in scholarship funds were awarded through the competition.

Audrey O'Donnell, being a junior this year is already looking forward to participating in next year's competition, Archibald added.

Willamette High School won top honors in the culinary competition at the event. McMinnville High School took first in the management competition and also swept the category awards. These schools head to the national invitational May 8-10 in Washington, D.C.

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Culinary instructor Chelsea Archibald



Jacie Gregory and John Messinger, left, at the state culinary competition.

Heidi Janke, Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association

Cannon Beach school goes to contract

'Pending offers' on Gearhart, high school

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

Three of four Seaside School District properties are under contract or have pending offers, Superintendent Sheila Roley said at the Monday, Feb. 24, Seaside City Council meeting.

"We currently have an offer on Seaside High School and multiple offers on Gearhart," Roley said.

A third district property — at Cannon Beach Elementary School — is now under a signed contract, for a price of \$400,000 with the city of Cannon Beach.

The Cannon Beach City Council affirmed the contract at its March 3 meeting, Cannon Beach City Manager Bruce St. Denis said Wednesday.

The city will provide a check for earnest money in the amount of \$50,000 to the title company.

"At this point the city and district are in the due diligence phase," St. Denis said.

Since its closure in 2013 because of tsunami fears, residents and officials have expressed interest in purchasing the Cannon Beach property for potential uses, including a community center,

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Gearhart won't pursue fire station bond vote in May

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

The city of Gearhart missed a Friday deadline to place a new firehouse bond on the ballot for May.

At February's City Council meeting, council members unanimously approved a request for up to \$25,000 from the building reserve fund to coordinate work to date, review materials and prepare a cost estimate for a bond to place a new fire station on North Marion Avenue with the hopes of putting the measure to the voters this year.

The Friday, Feb. 28, deadline came and went as city officials, without comment, did not schedule the special council meeting necessary to place the measure on the May primary election ballot.

Cost estimates for the new firehouse come after more than three years of outreach and research to replace the fire station at 670 Pacific Way, a cinderblock building constructed in 1958 and considered vulnerable in a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake and tsunami.

The proposed North Marion site known as High Point includes three separate parcels, two owned by Gearhart's

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Seaside kindergartners build skills

Snapshot in time, and a starting point

By KATHERINE LACAZE
Seaside Signal

Each year, the Oregon Department of Education and the Early Learning Division require educators around the state to assess incoming kindergartners to help identify what skills each student possesses upon entering the public school system.

Seaside Elementary Principal Juli Wozniak described the assessment as "a snapshot in time of what that student is able to show they know."

"We're trying to see what they are coming in with prior to kindergarten, not what we've taught them here," she said.

In February, the agencies jointly released results from the 2019-20 Oregon Kindergarten Assessment. The assessment is given each fall to entering kindergartners and evaluates students in three core areas of learning: early literacy, early math, and approaches to learning, or their interpersonal and self-regulation skills.

"It really just gives a little indication of our starting point for every single kid," said Betsy Mahoney, a kindergarten teacher at The Heights Elementary School. "It's not like they're ahead or behind of where they should be, it's just where they are, and then we move forward from there."

Assessment results

About 100 Seaside students were assessed for the academic portion during the annual kindergarten multiphasic clinic held in September.

Over the first six weeks of the school



Kindergartner Jaylen Garcia plays with pattern blocks in her classroom at The Heights Elementary School.

Betsy Mahoney

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