OUR 113th Year

March 20, 2020 \$1.00

Virus concerns bring Seaside to a near standstill

Impacts felt in closures, cancellations

Seaside Signal

Canceled.

As postponements, closures and cancellations mount, that is the message pumped out as the state moves to slow the spread of the coronavirus. Gov. Kate Brown on Monday ordered the closure of bars and restaurants in the state for four weeks, allowing restaurants only to provide takeout, and banned events

See Virus, Page A6



Seaside's Nike store was one of hundreds of retailers throughout the country to temporarily close.

'A whole new world'

Seaside schools to focus on remote learning

By R.J. MARX Seaside Signal

Seaside staff will be adapting to a "whole new world," district superintendent Sheila Roley said after Gov. Kate Brown extended the closure of public schools because of the coronavirus until April 28.

The Seaside School District board of directors met Tuesday night, shortly after the governor's announcement.

"It's a whole new world to all of us, in so many ways," Roley said.

See Schools, Page A6



The Heights needs full roof replacement

Cost is significantly higher than originally planned

By R.J. MARX Seaside Signal

The Heights Elementary School needs a new roof.

"The roof work has been scheduled for summer 2020, since the beginning of construction," said project manager Jim Henry at the Seaside School District Construction Oversight Committee meeting on March 10. "The district has decided it makes sense to replace the entire roof rather than limit the work to only repairing areas impacted by seismic upgrade work."

In the district's construction plans, the replacement was budgeted for \$500,000.

Full removal and replacement, new flashing and drains for the 81,500-square-foot roof "will be much higher," he said.

The current roof is past its expected life span, Henry said. The Heights Elementary School opened for grade-school students in 1975, with a roof replacement in 1990. Specifications call for a three-ply, built-up bituminous roof for most of the roof area, Henry said. The north area will be asphalt shingles.

High Line Adventure Park offers three-stories of climbing and platforms.

High Life opens Seaside aerial challenge course

By R.J. MARX Seaside Signal

he adventurous are welcome to pay a visit to Seaside's newest outdoor attraction on Saturday.

The High Life Adventure park on South Roosevelt Drive in Seaside features an aerial challenge course with 30 platforms and more than 60 challenge elements.

Participants are "clicked in" and navigate the course 20 to 40 feet off the ground, through the obstacles including bridges, ropes and cables. Moving elements incorporate swings, barrels, a kayak, snowboard, a surfboard and more.

Owners Dave and Lancey Larson designed and created their first adventure park, High Life Adventures Zip Line Tours, in Warrenton in 2012.

See Adventure, Page A8



Jana Dean shows how to clip in before going onto the ropes.

The existing roof has the same systems.

The asphalt shingle work can be done when school is in session, he said. The built-up roof will not be done when school is in session.

As part of the \$100 million bond project approved by voters in 2016, students from Gearhart Elementary School and Seaside Heights will merge in the renovated and expanded building.

The renovation is considered the second phase of the \$99.7 million construction project that sees the relocation of the middle and high schools to a location outside of the tsunami inundation zone.

The roof replacement will likely be paid for from construction contingency funds, Henry said.



Renovation at the Heights in the former gym and play area. The space will be used for new classrooms.

Photographic memoir chronicles spirit of the 1960s

Author traveled with the Grateful Dead

By KATHERINE LACAZE Seaside Signal

What was it like to be part of the Grateful Dead's extended family, following the legendary rock band's journey from its time in San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury neighborhood to touring across the country?



The answer is chronicled by Rosie McGee, 74, who spent roughly a decade traveling with the Grateful Dead, dancing and taking photographs, in her book, "Dancing With the Dead," a photographic memoir published in 2012.

She recalls "one of the happiest moments" of her life taking place Jan. 4, 1967, during the Human Be-In, a gathering organized by poet Allen Ginsberg and writer Gary Snyder.

"Onstage or in the audience, we all felt the embrace of community joined together by many common bonds and especially that this was the first time we had all gotten together," McGee said during

a presentation at the Seaside Public Library on March 14.

The Haight-Ashbury era

McGee was the daughter of French immigrants who settled in the San Francisco Bay Area. In 1964, she was dating Phil Lesh, one of the founding members of the Grateful Dead, and immersed in the fledgling counterculture movement.

According to McGee, that meant partaking frequently in acid tests, where dozens of people met at rented spaces and willingly drank Kool-Aid laced with then-legal LSD.

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Katherine Lacaze

Author Rosie McGee signs copies of her book, "Dancing With the Dead," a photographic memoir published in 2012, at the Seaside Public Library after her presentation March 14.

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R.J. Marx