

Fireworks: County extends lodging restrictions through May

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“That really saddens my heart, because it’s one of my favorite events of the year,” Owen said. “Not only is it our Independence Day, it’s a community day. We get to see all our family and friends. We get to highlight the Seaside community from morning till night.”

Numbers hold in Clatsop County
As of Wednesday, the Oregon Health Authority reported 2,446 cases and 101 deaths from the virus statewide. The health authority tracked 460 test results in Clatsop County, including six positive cases.

Extended order
The county Board of Commissioners voted last week to extend the county’s emergency declaration related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the emergency order closing hotels, vacation rentals and campgrounds to May 31.

The declaration, originally adopted March 16, enables the board to take actions specific to the county in addition to those declared by the state.
Exceptions come for campground visitors who



R.J. Marx

Construction continues to be the city’s most active business sector. While most of downtown is closed, Heritage Square gets a facelift.

have longer-term reservations dating from March 11, as well as campground staff, hosts and people employed in the county on a temporary basis. Pools, spas and other public bathing facilities also

remain ordered closed.

Limited library services
Esther Moberg, director of Seaside Library, said the library remains closed to the

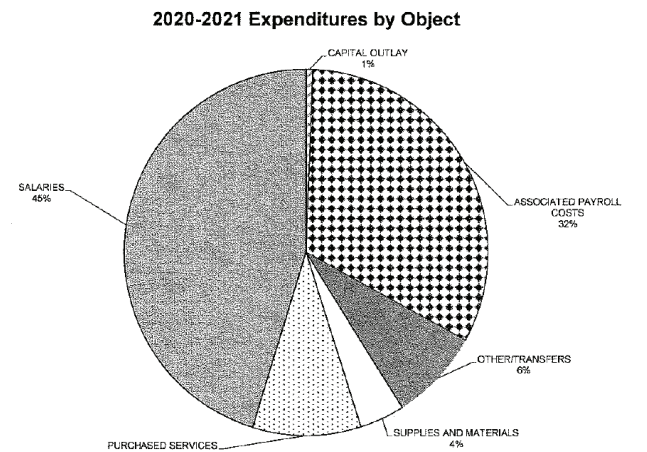
public.

This week, the library will mail out books to people with library cards, so they can place holds, Moberg said. “The following week we hope to

start curbside services with library cards. The building is closed, but we’re offering limited services.”
Virtual storytime for children is available on the library’s Facebook page.

Serving up breakfast
With events postponed or canceled through the end of May, Seaside Civic and Convention Center General Manager Russ Vandenberg, convention center staff and Oregon Fine Foods teamed up to provide three free breakfasts, serving 200 breakfasts at each.
The first breakfast offered pancakes and sausage to first responders and health care workers within the county. The second and third breakfasts served first responders and anyone who has experienced hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

City Council meets via Zoom
Zoom meetings are the new normal for Seaside City Council, as the council continues to maintain its regular meeting schedule.
While the doors remain locked, “we remain mostly fully staffed,” Assistant City Manager Jon Rahl said. “We’ve set up with an alternative schedule with staff, to help with good distancing measuring. We are there and accepting phone calls and operating as normal as possible.”
The next council meeting is scheduled for May 11.



Seaside School District chart shows 45% of expenditures designated for salaries, with another 32% for associated payroll costs.

Schools: Expect new campus ready by fall

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collections, funds from timber revenue and the federal government.
Superintendent Sheila Roley said the district is “prepared to face any financial obstacles without jeopardizing the integrity of our programs to students.”
Proposed expenditures “will be revisable.”
Real estate continues to have an upward momen-

THE DISTRICT IS ‘PREPARED TO FACE ANY FINANCIAL OBSTACLES WITHOUT JEOPARDIZING THE INTEGRITY OF OUR PROGRAMS TO STUDENTS.’
Superintendent Sheila Roley

tum, which has a “very favorable” impact on the district’s revenue calculation, Hill said.

Because the teachers’ negotiated 2020-21 contract has not been settled, the school district budgets

a 2.5% step placeholder increase in salary and a \$25 per month employee benefit plan increase similar to past years.
In the fall, the district anticipates adding a pre-K program to serve 4-year-olds, Roley said.
Budget committee members will be asked to approve the budget at the district’s May 19 meeting. A public hearing and board meeting to adopt the budget is scheduled for June 16.

District: Hopes to rehire laid-off workers

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“We are predicting a decrease in our ability to generate revenue, particularly for the first and second quarters of the fiscal year,” Archibald said. “There’s a lot of concern. We don’t have any revenue coming in. The majority of our operations are funded by the residents of the district through their taxes. That’s pretty stable for this fiscal year and moving forward for the short term, but after that period, and given our inability to generate revenue, we’re taking a really cautious approach.”
More than 50% of revenue comes from taxpayers, amounting to around \$1.7 million. Additional revenue comes from program fees, timber taxes, donations and special events.
The pandemic comes at a period when the district had the “most well-funded budget to date,” Archibald said, as property values continued to grow within district boundaries.
“The district is in good shape,” Archibald said. “We’re still able to invest in infrastructure and capital expenses.”
“Essentially we had the budget down about the middle of February, to have it be able to be presented with small adjustments as we saw fit,” Archibald said. “Then in the middle of March, life changed and things got a lot different, we essentially scrapped that budget and presented the budget here today.”
Personnel expenses stand at \$1.8 million in the general fund, which includes money for administrative, aquatic, the youth and community centers, recreation and special events funding.
The Sunset Pool, which operates at a cost of just

New Sunset rec board member sworn in

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

Sunset Empire Park and Recreation welcomed Susan Coddington to the board of directors last week.
“Move on up to the table,” board director Jeremy Mills said at the livestream meeting.
Coddington replaces Rodney Roberts, who announced his resignation in February, leaving the Position 5 seat vacant.
Board members include Michael Hinton, John Chapman, Katharine Parker and chairman Jeremy Mills.
A Seaside resident, Coddington worked as a nurse from 1984 to 2019, providing nursing care to patients from newborn to geriatric age. As a wound care facilitator for Providence Seaside Hospital since 2005, Coddington was involved in patient and staff training

over \$1 million, is the district’s most expensive facility.
“We’re taking a cautious approach but a hopeful one,” Ronald Blaine, the budget committee chairman, said. “But as things come back in this town, as we build slowly, this pool is going to be an important component as long as people are assured that it’s going to be a safe experience, it’s going to be an important contribution to us feeling about everything.”

and ongoing education regarding wound care.
Coddington completed clinical community emergency response team training in Seaside and received her amateur radio technician license last year. She is a member of the park and rec district budget committee. She applied for an open district seat in December.
“Su is going to be my No. 1 pick,” Chapman said in a discussion of the four candidates at the board’s April 14 work session. “As we come out of this coronavirus, she is one of those people as a nurse who has total patience and compassion about what’s going on for the future. We’re really going to have to adjust of how we look at stuff and how we look after people who use park and rec.”
Other applicants for the position interviewed included Justin Abbott, Celeste Bodner and Andy Klumper.

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