

Post Office: 'As for packages, we're overwhelmed every day'

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four vacancies within the past year, he said.

Sorting machines for mail are located in Portland, not locally, and they continue to operate without interruption.

No mailboxes have been removed from local streets, he added.

In Gearhart, postal volume is greater than ever due to the coronavirus pandemic, Kozij said, driven by homework assignments, online buying, library lending and more people working at home.

"As for packages, we're overwhelmed every day," she said. "It's busier than Christmas."

Ernie Swanson, a U.S.

Postal Service spokesman based in Seattle, said he is confident the postal service will be able to "handle, process and deliver all election and ballot mail requirements in a timely manner."

There are no significant changes in operations in Seaside or the northern Oregon Coast, Swanson said. "It is basically business as usual. There are no cuts affecting the Seaside area."

Kozij advised local residents to bring service concerns to postal and government officials.

"If I get the mail, you can be darn sure I will sort it," Kozij said. "But if I don't get the mail, I can't sort the mail."



Seaside Post Office.

R.J. Marx



Karynn Kozij of the Gearhart Post Office.

R.J. Marx

Scouts: Park district and Girl Scouts have been 'excellent tenants'

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Foreclosed upon by the county in the 1930s, The Girl Scout structure was built in 1952.

Girl Scouts has used the building since then for troop meetings, ceremonies and overnight stays, through a lease with the county for \$1 per year. The building is closed now due to the coronavirus pandemic.

George said the Seaside location, one of nine Girl Scout properties in Oregon, is considered the Scouts' "most popular program property."

The former Boy Scouts cabin was moved to its current location during the 2008 site prep for the adjacent Seaside Public Library.

The cabin, built in 1940, was in disrepair, with dry rot, a leaky roof and chimney, including sagging support beams.

In 2010, Mary Blake, the former general manager of the park district, procured funds to fix up the cabin for the benefit of a youth drop-in center.

The building was dedi-



The county agreed to transfer ownership of the Mary Blake Playhouse to the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District.

R.J. Marx



Building on Broadway used for Girl Scout activities.

R.J. Marx

cated in 2013 as the Mary Blake Playhouse in her honor. A former Boy Scout cabin located about 200

feet from its current location found new life as the Mary Blake Playhouse when it was moved to the south end of the property. Adjacent to the library off of Avenue A, the small cabin is used as a rental space and ongoing evening programs.

The district, in conjunction with the city, repaired the cabin and in 2011 entered into a lease agreement with the county for a 10-year lease with the option to renew for

four consecutive terms of 10-years each.

The building is owned and managed by the park district.

Both the park district and the Girl Scouts, with renewable long-term leases, have been "excellent tenants," the county's property management specialist, Sirpa Duos, said. "We just thought it would be better if they had them."

The property will become two tax lots. The northern half will be owned by the Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington, and the southern part will be owned by the park district, Duos

said.

Neither property will be added to the real estate tax rolls; the park district is a taxing district and not assessable, Duos said. The Girl Scouts are eligible for nonprofit tax exemption.

Both buildings and land will be in their ownership with a reversionary clause should either property experience a change in use.

The only cost to the park district is \$92 for deed transfer.

After commission approval, the park district board must approve the transaction, Duos said.

Brown: 'It's been an honor to work with everyone'

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at Astoria Golf & Country Club, Bandon Dunes Golf Resort and Pumpkin Ridge Golf Club.

Brown earned a degree in business at Linfield College and attended school in Gearhart and Seaside.

In making the announcement, Brown endorsed City Councilor Paulina Cockrum for Gearhart mayor.

Brown and Cockrum served together on the city's Planning Commission as chair and vice chair. They have agreed that protecting the comprehensive plan and giving residents a voice in the community are top priorities.

"Paulina has years of experience serving on the Planning Commission and on the City Council," Brown said in a statement. "It's been incredible to have her as our council president these last few years where she continues to work diligently to preserve what makes Gearhart so special. It's been an honor to work with everyone and help keep Gearhart the quiet residential community we all

know and love."

He also encouraged councilors Reita Fackerell and Dan Jesse to run again

in November.

"With Paulina and Councilor (Kerry) Smith, I hope they will continue

the incredible work that our residents, city, and council have accomplished together the last four years."

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