



Jeff TerHar

Evan Cory serves up some beach volleyball action in the men's open last weekend during the Seaside Beach Volleyball tournament. He and teammate Logan Webber topped the team of Travis Mewhirter and Adam Roberts for the championship.

## BEACH VOLLEYBALL RETURNS TO SEASIDE

By GARY HENLEY  
The Astorian

Seaside can put the “annual” back into the Seaside Beach Volleyball tournament, as the popular event made its return to the beach last weekend, after cancellation of the 2020 tournament because of the pandemic.

In its 39th year, the event is one of the largest beach volleyball gatherings on the West Coast.

Action on Saturday featured exciting championships in the men's and women's open/professional divisions.

The men's open winners were

Evan Cory, a 6-foot-3 left-hander from Metairie, Louisiana, and 6-foot-7 teammate Logan Webber, of Grand Rapids, Michigan. The duo topped the team of Travis Mewhirter and Adam Roberts in the final.

Cory and Webber were coming off a recent championship in the AVPNext New Orleans tournament in Kenner, Louisiana.

Meanwhile, the women's open title match went all three sets, with the California team of Megan Nash and Brittany Tiegs (Redondo Beach) rallying for a 17-21, 21-16, 15-12 victory over Emily Hartong and Macy Jerger.

Action officially began Thursday

with the juniors division and wrapped up Sunday with play in the fours and sixes divisions.

This year, the 185 courts set up on the beach featured over a thousand teams, mostly from Washington, Oregon and California, with entrants from states including Arizona, Michigan, North Carolina, Montana, Texas and New York, among others.

In other division championships, No. 1 seed Danielle Jacobson and Callie Weber took the first set, 21-19, and won another close battle in the second set to secure the victory over the team of

See Volleyball, Page A3

### GEARHART

## City seeks vote on firehouse bond

A \$13 million question on November ballot

By GRIFFIN REILLY  
The Astorian

The Gearhart City Council has voted unanimously to put a bond measure to finance a new firehouse on the November ballot.

An estimated \$13 million is needed to fund the project near Highlands Lane and U.S. Highway 101.

A recent geotech analysis of the surrounding area revealed the dune at the site is 2,000 years older than a previously targeted location for a firehouse, meaning there will not be a need for a more difficult type of foundation.

“This is one of very few places in Gearhart with land like this,” City Administrator Chad Sweet said.

A recent city survey found that 65% of respondents were in favor of building the new firehouse and 60% supported the bond financing.

Of the 554 survey respondents, however, just 309 were registered voters. A narrower portion of voters — 51% — were in favor of both the new firehouse and the bond.

The survey was the second by the city on a new firehouse. A 2019 survey identified the High Point site on North Marion as the preferable location.

The city wants to move the aging firehouse on Pacific Way to help better prepare emergency operations for an earthquake and tsunami.

## Homeless strategy takes form in Seaside

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside Signal

After public forums, meetings with city department heads, a listening session, formation of a task force and think tank, the Seaside City Council is ready to take the next steps to address homelessness.

In July, Clatsop Community Action housing liaisons Cheryl Paul and Jody Anderson went into the field for about 19 days. “We had 265 encounters with unsheltered people,” Paul said at a City Council meeting last week. “We average around 13 or 14 people per day.”

See Homeless, Page A3

## City develops water system safeguards

Focus on resilience and emergency preparedness

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside Signal

Top on the list of threats to Seaside's water system are potential contamination, earthquake and wildfire at the water treatment plant. But consultants are also helping to safeguard the water system's risk from a plane crash in the reservoir, sabotage and cyber crimes.

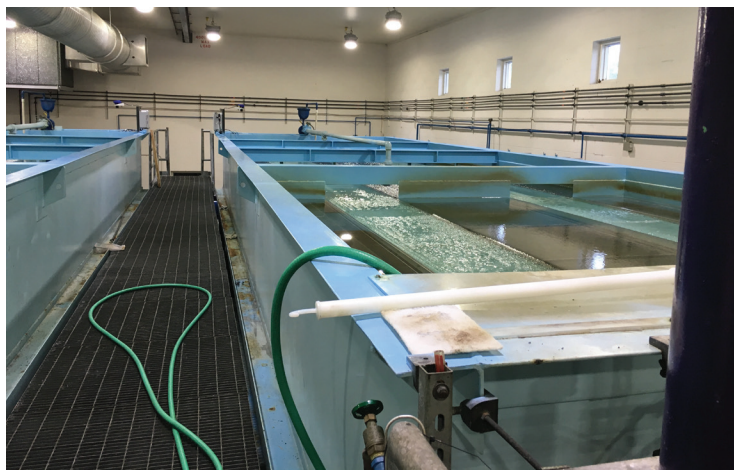
The asset-threat analysis, conducted by consultants at

Murraysmith Inc., identified the consequences of these among 13 potential scenarios.

The purpose of the analysis is to establish an ongoing culture of resilience and emergency preparedness within all water systems, Dale McDowell, the city's Public Works director, said at a City Council meeting in July.

“This is our protection system for our water system itself and everything that has to do with our water station, or water system from our pump stations to our reservoirs to our earthen dams,” McDowell said.

See Water, Page A3



R.J. Marx

Inside the city's water filtration plant. The plant is considered vulnerable in an earthquake, wildfire and loss of access roads.

## Hood to Coast returns, with coronavirus protocols in place

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside Signal

The mother of all relays returns to Seaside later this month, with organizers anticipating around 19,000 participants running and walking in this year's Hood to Coast.

Over 1,050 running teams of 12 will race from Mount Hood to the beach at Seaside. Four hundred teams will walk in the Port-

land to Coast Relay.

Last year's event was canceled because of the pandemic. Social distancing and safety protocols are subject to change based on recommendations from the Oregon Health Authority, said Dan Floyd, chief operating officer for the event.

“We follow OHA guidelines and continually update event plans based on the expanding reopening schedule,” Floyd said. “Our top priority is preserving participant and volunteer safety as we ensure a safe and inspiring 2021 race.”

Nonvaccinated participants will carry face coverings and utilize them within 6-feet of other participants while running or walking their assigned legs of the race. Random spot checks for digital vaccination cards may be administered.

Contactless check-in, additional portable toilets, hand-washing stations and sanitizers are among protective measures of this year's event.

Volunteers are provided with new reflective vests and masks to wear during their shifts.

The running relay opens at Mount Hood on Aug. 27, with staggered start times early in the morning.

On that same day, the walking relay starts at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry in Portland, also early in the morning, with staggered start times for walk teams of 12. Two start waves for the inaugural Portland to Coast Challenge Relay from the museum start at 5 p.m.

On Aug. 28, teams from each event are expected to

See Hood to Coast, Page A3



R.J. Marx

Crowds at Hood to Coast in 2019.

