

# 4-H hopes for teen program at Sunset Recreation Center

**SEEN FROM SEASIDE**  
R.J. MARX



An innovative program for teens could be coming to the Sunset Recreation Center. Area teacher Mary Goff, teamed with the Clatsop County 4-H, said the program was designed for teens not otherwise served by school activities.

"This is a new innovative model for a group of students at a time when there just haven't been the cohesive kinds of offerings or places offered them," Goff said at an August meeting of the Sunset Park and Recreation District Board of Directors.

The rec center "ticks a lot of boxes," she said. "It is a safe and supportive location. It's got a wholesome physical space with lots of possible ways to use it."

Two trained adults would work with between six and 20 students, Goff said. "We're looking at the possibility of using one room that could be rehabbed, specifically by the teens."

A science room or storage room, with possible use of other spaces could be used for the program. "Practical skills development is what we're talking about," she said.

The program would stress scientific and critical thinking for careers in technology, consumer science, animal training and medical science among areas of interest. South County could serve as the prototype for the program elsewhere, including the northern part of Clatsop County.

In March, Goff met with 4-H program coordinator Sandra Carlson to discuss unique needs and goals. In days ahead, the program plans new adult volunteer training, teen participant outreach and the first in-person meeting for teens during the first week of October.

The program offers a home where young people can count on going for the school year, Goff said. "Do they have a place to go after school? Are they going to work? When COVID hit a lot of students who had been in alternative programs were faced with the possibility that they had to go to work because their families needed help," Goff said. "They have lost the opportunity to even think about moving ahead and in school, for

those reasons."

Goff said the program is meant to be a safe, supportive and inexpensive program supported by teen fundraising events, assisted by adults and co-leaders. "things that involve skill sets that younger kids just are not likely to be able to undertake on their own."

The program could take some of the burden off school career technical education programs, which are stretched to provide programs for nontraditional learning.

For young people, the program is not graded, tested or evaluated in a traditional way, Goff said. "It's a nonjudgmental opportunity for kids to explore and build their own interests and voice based on what the teens are interested in," she said.

The goal is to "bring out the spark in each student," she said, particularly for teens who are disengaged. "There's a development sweet spot for teenagers we're missing."

"Personally I think 4-H is a great fit," park district board president Katharine Parker said.

The group could be part of a flex-lease program, sharing space and costs with other organizations, board members suggested.

"It would be great if they could have a community room, that they reserve and have time on, and still have other community partners come in and use that space," Parker said. "I understand they want to have their own space, but since they're using it for such a small time, maybe they could use it with community partners. I think it would be a great fit."

"I'm going to keep working with them to refine their plan and needs," Skyler Archibald, the park district's executive director, said after the meeting.



4-H kids show their animals at an August event at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds.



Sunset Empire Park and Recreation district board members Su Coddington, Celeste Bodner, Michael Hinton and Katharine Parker. Executive Director Skyler Archibald at right.

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

## Gearhart Hoodie



Andrew and Peggy Stein selling the "Gearhart Hoodie," outside of The Great Gallery at Gearhart Art Walk on Saturday.

R.J. Marx

## Sunset Recreation Center sells surplus items

After taking inventory at the Sunset Recreation Center, the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District will be offering surplus items for sale to the public, on Wednesday, Sept. 15, from 3 to 6 p.m., and Saturday, Sept. 18, 10 a.m. to noon.

Surplus items being offered include student and teacher furniture such as desks, tables, chairs, whiteboards, and lockers; books; classroom equipment; a pottery kiln; cafeteria tables; file cabinets, bookshelves and other storage furniture; custodial equipment; and equipment from the wood shop housed at the former middle school.

Visitor entry is at the northwest entrance; purchasers will need to haul items themselves.

Staff will be available to assist customers purchasing surplus goods.

Among them will be Sunset Pool life-guard Everett Rollins, a senior at Seaside High School. Rollins will be helping organize this sale benefiting the foundation as his Pacifica project.

For more information, go to [www.sunsetempire.com](http://www.sunsetempire.com).

## Cultural Coalition invites grant applications

The Clatsop County Cultural Coalition is gearing up to accept applications for the 2022 grant cycle. The grant awards, funded by the Oregon Cultural Trust, are distributed to projects that support, maintain, preserve and protect cultural programs in the arts, heritage and humanities in Clatsop County.

Organizations with 501(c)(3) nonprofit status are eligible to apply for grants through the cultural coalition.

Individuals may apply when sponsored by a nonprofit fiscal agent. Application forms are due by 5 p.m. Oct. 31. Late applications will not be accepted.

Grant awards will be announced in December 2021 for activities occurring between January 1, 2022, and December 31, 2022. Grant funds are available up to \$2,000 per project. Approximately \$10,000 is awarded each grant cycle.

Applicants are encouraged to read the Clatsop County Cultural Coalition Plan and FAQs, which are online at [www.clatsopculturalcoalition.org](http://www.clatsopculturalcoalition.org).

Virtual grant writing workshops will take place from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 6, and Friday, Oct. 18, via Zoom. Applicants are encouraged to attend a workshop. Email [kpaino2060@gmail.com](mailto:kpaino2060@gmail.com) to make a reservation and receive materials, or, if no email access, call 503-741-1914 to arrange for material pickup.

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

## Who is the Gearhart city attorney really serving, council or citizens?

The following are my thoughts regarding our city attorney's response to the Signal's write-up regarding the ballot objection filed by myself and Dr. Harold Gable involving the vague language in the proposed upcoming ballot currently in the Clatsop County Circuit Court.

I sincerely believe that this proposed firehouse bond ballot measure was purposely written in such a manner that the ballot met the minimum procedural requirements but omitted operating facts that leaves our voters uninformed and unable to make a balanced voting

decision.

If Mr. Watts' self-professed goal is to inform the Gearhart voter, he fell short in the ballot language.

Mr. Watts is an excellent attorney but while he claims an obligation to voters who pays his fees, it's our City Council who provides his employment opportunity. I have no doubt that Mr. Watts will diligently serve the council, but his response to the Signal indicates our City Council commands his foremost priority, not Gearhart residents. Otherwise he would agree the ballot is vague and advise the city to develop more precise language as to the truth.

**Jack Zimmerman  
Gearhart**

**PUBLIC MEETINGS**

**Contact local agencies for latest meeting information and attendance guidelines.**

**MONDAY, SEPT. 13**

**Seaside Tree Board**, 4 p.m., 989 Broadway.

**Seaside City Council**, 7 p.m., 989 Broadway, [cityofseaside.us](http://cityofseaside.us).

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15**

**Seaside Tourism Advisory Committee**, 3 p.m., 989 Broadway.

**Seaside Transportation Advisory Commission**, 6 p.m.

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 21**

**Seaside Planning Commission**, 6 p.m., work session, 989 Broadway, [cityofseaside.us](http://cityofseaside.us).

**Seaside School District**, 6 p.m., [seaside.k12.or.us/meetings](http://seaside.k12.or.us/meetings).

**MONDAY, SEPT. 27**

**Seaside City Council**, 7 p.m., 989 Broadway, [cityofseaside.us](http://cityofseaside.us).

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 28**

**Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District**, 5:15 p.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center.

**Seaside Airport Advisory Committee**, 6 p.m., 989 Broadway.

**TUESDAY, OCT. 5**

**Seaside Community Center Commission**, 10 a.m., 1225 Avenue A.

**Seaside Library Board of Directors**, 4:30 p.m., 1131 Broadway St.

**Seaside Planning Commission**, 6 p.m., 989 Broadway.



**PUBLISHER**  
Kari Borgen

**EDITOR**  
R.J. Marx

**CIRCULATION MANAGER**  
Shannon Arlint  
**ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER**  
Sarah Silver-Tecza

**PRODUCTION MANAGER**  
John D. Bruijn  
**SYSTEMS MANAGER**  
Carl Earl

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**  
Skyler Archibald  
Joshua Heineman  
Katherine Lacaze  
Esther Moberg

**Seaside Signal**

The Seaside Signal is published every other week by EO Media Group, 1555 N. Roosevelt, Seaside, OR 97138. 503-738-5561 [seasidesignal.com](http://seasidesignal.com) Copyright © 2021 Seaside Signal. Nothing can be reprinted or copied without consent of the owners.

**Letter policy**

The Seaside Signal welcomes letters to the editor. The deadline is noon Monday prior to publication. Letters must be 400 words or less and must be signed by the author and include a phone number for verification. We also request that submissions be limited to one letter per month. Send to 1555 N. Roosevelt Drive, Seaside, OR 97138, drop them off at 1555 N. Roosevelt Drive or fax to 503-738-9285, or email [rmrnx@seasidesignal.com](mailto:rmrnx@seasidesignal.com)

**Subscriptions**

Annually: \$51.00, monthly autopay is \$4.25  
E-Edition only: \$4 a month

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Seaside Signal, P.O. Box 210, Astoria, OR 97103. Postage Paid at Seaside, OR, 97138 and at additional mailing offices. Copyright © 2021 by the Seaside Signal. No portion of this newspaper may be reproduced without written permission. All rights reserved.