

Fields: Seaside zooms in on softball solution

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for Civil Rights.

The school district anticipates a lengthy process to negotiate an agreement or adjust an existing intergovernmental agreement with the alternate site owners if they do not build the new softball complex at the Wahanna site, with a possibility of not meeting the completion date.

The southern property line runs from the south field to the main campus, while the north property line — shared with the health district — runs approximately through third base of the northern practice field.

The initial conceptual plan involves upgrading the southern field, which is contained entirely on school district property, with new synthetic grass and synthetic dirt that have field markings.

The plan also involves removing the existing dilapidated building that sits between the fields and replacing it with a newer field house, designed with restrooms, team rooms and concessions.

According to Modin, they're also looking at reconstructing the dugouts on the first and third base lines, and adding bullpens and pitching cages, as well as a crow's nest behind home plate. The existing batting cages may see improvements. They also



R.J. Marx

The school district plan involves upgrades to the existing Wahanna softball field, with new synthetic grass and dirt with field markings

want to install new lighting, although there are questions concerning the proximity of the field to the hospital's helipad.

Additionally, they expect to include parking and landscaping improvements and extra storage. According to Hardebeck, the project scope is still in the early conceptual stage. Cost esti-

mates will be prepared for school district review and approval as the design progresses further and more details are determined. The project team plans share estimates for the project in the next few months. The goal is to start construction by late April to early May.

The school board approved the team's recom-

mendation to make Wahanna the primary option and move the project into the next stage of design.

"I don't think it closes the door on looking at other options," Hardebeck said.

However, he added, "This seems to be the most viable option to currently get us to that end date required by the Office of Civil Rights."

Park district makes appeal to keep softball at Broadway Field

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

violations of Title IX, the federal law meant to protect against discrimination in education.

"They have shared what they need to do in order to comply with what the Office of Civil Rights has indicated," Archibald said. "We are working with Seaside School District staff to do what we can to support."

Among options is relocating to Wahanna Fields, the site of a field now.

The park district has the turf knowledge and turf equipment to make the field upgrades, he said.

Meanwhile, the park district continues to present the option of improvements at Broadway Field.

"I've offered that," Archibald said. "There might still be a solution at Broadway Field that might be more economically feasible to all parties, to keep the field there, where we already have the structure and the lights."

According to the federal agreement, the fields must open by 2023, he said. "It's a pretty aggressive timeline."

Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District officials want the Seaside School District to consider keeping softball play at Broadway Field.

It does seem likely, or at least possible, that the Seaside School District won't be using Broadway Field for softball in the next couple of years, Skyler Archibald said at a late January meeting.

Archibald, the executive director of Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District, represents one of three parties to determine the fields' future, along with the city and Seaside School District.

According to an agreement with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights the school district has until the end of June 2023 to build a softball facility and provide more equity between girls and boys athletics.

The noticeable differences between the baseball and softball diamonds at Broadway Field create potential

BRIEFS

Trail's End to feature artwork by Phyllis Taylor

The Trail's End Art Association Gallery will open a new show in March featuring paintings and other art forms by Phyllis Taylor.

A reception for the artists on March 5, during the Gearhart ArtWalk, takes place 2 to 5 p.m.

The show will be open Fridays through Sundays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. from March 4 to March 27.

Phyllis Taylor retired to Astoria after 40 years at Indiana University as a graphic designer, illustrator, and instructor. Now she is pursuing her dream of painting.

Taylor graduated with a bachelor's degree, with a double major in English literature and music with a minor in botany. In graduate school at California State University Long Beach she studied art history, photography, and graphic design.

Trail's End is the oldest nonprofit art association of its kind on the North Coast. In addition to new gallery shows of original art that changes monthly, there is also an entry gallery featuring prints, greeting cards, jewelry, pottery and more. The gallery is at 656 A Street in Gearhart. For more information, go to TrailsEndArt.org.

'It's a Blooming Benefit' seeks basket sponsors

Locals and visitors alike love admiring the colorful flower baskets that adorn the lampposts throughout the summer months.

The Seaside Downtown Development Association invites the community to come to Dundee's Bar and Grill presents the fourth annual "It's a Blooming Benefit" dinner fundraiser. On March 8, from 4 to 9 p.m., Dundee's will donate 50% of all proceeds to this year's flower basket campaign.

Sou'wester Garden Club meets Feb. 23

On Wednesday, Feb. 23, from 10 a.m. to noon, the Sou'wester Garden Club presents a "surprise presentation" by Anita Dotson; Bob Chisholm Commu-

nity Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside.

Elks Hoops Shoot results

Seaside Elks Lodge #1748 hosted the NW District Hoop Shoot on Feb. 5, at the high school. Before the event, the parents, contestants and volunteers were treated to breakfast at the lodge.

The winners of the contest will advance to the State Hoop Shoot Contest to be held in Silverton on Feb. 26. The winners this year are Miles Decker from Florence, Meredith Limbrunner from Newport, Torelan DeSantis from Florence, Jahzara Marchall from Seaside, Hayden Halsen from Seaside and Tiera Spivey from Seaside.

Elks volunteers included Brian Taylor, David Darling, Jan Jackson, Joan Beneke, Paul Hands, Dona Morris, Jack Morrison, Adam Israel, Kane Israel, Jim Fetting, Rod Roberts, Kyle Truax, Hayden Roberts, Justin Tagg, Tamara Robert and Brian Denon.

Author to speak at Seaside Library

The Seaside Public Library will host author Juhea Kim in the Community Room on Saturday, Feb. 26, at 2 p.m.

Kim will be giving a book talk on her debut novel, "Beasts of a Little Land." Named a best book of 2021 by Harper's Bazaar, Real Simple, Ms., and Portland Monthly, "Beasts of a Little Land" is an epic story of love, war, and redemption set against the backdrop of the Korean independence movement. There will be a Q&A and book signing after the talk. Sign-ups are required to attend. Contact the library to secure a spot.

Kim is a writer, artist and advocate based in Portland. Her debut novel, "Beasts of a Little Land," was published around the world in 2022. Her writing has been published in Granta, Slice, The Massachusetts Review, Zyzyva, Guernica, Catapult, Joyland, Times Literary Supplement, The Independent, Sierra Magazine, Portland Monthly and elsewhere.

The Seaside Public Library is at 1131 Broadway. For information call 503-738-6742 or visit www.seasidelibrary.org or www.facebook.com/seasidepubliclibrary.

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