

Retirement: Vandenberg oversaw convention center's \$15 million remodel

Continued from Page A1



Russ Vandenberg

With steady growth, Vandenberg and others recognized the need for expansion.

Studies in 2009 and 2013 were the prelude to expansion to the convention center's \$15 million renovation

in 2018, paid for by an increase in room tax. Renovations and upgrades to ballrooms, offices, the lobby, lighting, storage and

more are among the major changes unveiled, as the facility grew 55,000 square feet or 20%.

The project was noted for coming in on-time and under budget, largely due to Vandenberg's stewardship and collaboration with convention center staff and

commissioners, contractors, management team and city partners.

The center remained active and booked 420 construction days and was occupied for 290 of those.

"It was a six-year planning, 18-month construction," he said. "It's one of

the highlights that I have accomplished here. We're seeing groups book the center 10 years in advance is our current window of scheduling. We're seeing larger groups we hadn't seen prior. Our calendar's looking really full for the next two or three years looking

forward. So I definitely see a recovery from this COVID pandemic that we've been dealing with."

The building is ready for the years ahead, he said. "It's prepared. It's modernized. It has increased in size. People love the look when they come down."

Overdose: Harm reduction program can save lives

Continued from Page A1

The harm reduction program trains people in the community to recognize symptoms of overdoses and administer naloxone while additional medical help can arrive.

When bystanders are trained and administer naloxone, survival rates increase substantially, King said.

The caution comes as social services advocates and law enforcement see an increase in the use of synthetic opioids like fentanyl, which is significantly stronger than morphine and her-

oin and can be blended with street drugs.

"A lot of times the person taking it doesn't know that there's something else. So that is leading to a lot of overdoses, as well," King said. "Using prescription opioids with other medications or substances like alcohol or benzodiazepines can make you more at risk for overdose. It's everywhere."

Anyone can be at risk for overdosing. "It isn't just someone that we see in our syringe exchange weekly," she said. "It can be family, friends, co-workers or patrons."

Narcan, designed to deliver naloxone nasally during an overdose, is provided to needle exchanges and to community organizations, including emergency responders and businesses.

People exiting jail are also provided Narcan in the belief that they're at high risk for overdoses, King said.

"We also provide naloxone at the health department and people with Oregon Health Plan can get it for free from their local pharmacy," she said.

Brian Owen, the CEO of the chamber, said he is

moving forward with connecting hotel staff and others to the program and offering training at designated locations.

"It's going to take some time, it's going to take some conversation," he said. "We're educating and getting this resource into the hands of our hotels, restaurants, retailers."

"We have a better opportunity to save that first five minutes before our medical first responders and that's what this is really geared toward: It's to get the right people on the scene at that time. And for you then to step back."



R.J. Marx
Jenna King and Kathryn Crombie of the harm reduction program at the Clatsop County Public Health Department.

Piroshky Piroshky Bakery coming to Seaside for one-day event

Seaside Signal

Piroshky Piroshky is heading to Seaside on March 12.

Local residents can order a taste of Seattle's internationally renowned Russian bakery Piroshky Piroshky for pre-order pickup at Cleanline Surf, 60 N. Roosevelt Drive.

"We're currently touring the United States with pre-order pop-up events for our 30th anniversary," communications director Shawn Nichols said. "Based on guest feedback, we are visiting new cities, and Seaside was one specifically requested by our customers. When visiting new locations we put out a call for a local partnership and our friends at Cleanline Surf welcomed us with open arms."

The products delivered at the pop-up are the same as the products offered in their stores.

"Our bestsellers are a great place to start," Nichols said, recommending the smoked salmon paté and beef-and-cheese as two of the most popular savory items.

"We also just added the Impossible beef and onion



The Reuben Piroshky.

for our vegan guests," he said. "If you're looking for something a little sweeter, our chocolate cream hazelnut roll is filled with house-made hazelnut chocolate with bits of hazelnut. We also have a rotating seasonal menu that updates monthly. For March we have our white chocolate cherry, and Reuben Piroshky, a classic Reuben sandwich inside our famous dough."

If successful, he foresees a return to Seaside. "Absolutely," Nichols said. "One-thousand percent."

Founded in Seattle's historic Pike Place Market, Piroshky Piroshky has offered hand-crafted Russian pastries to loyal fans since 1992; order at piroshkybakery.com.

BRIEFS

Khan to focus on new business ventures

After 13 years, Masudur Khan has withdrawn as a member of Seaside Lodging Hospitality LLC, Doel Hospitality LLC and City

Center Hospitality LLC, which operate the Inn at Seaside, River Inn, and the Salt-Line Hotel. Khan will focus on new business ventures in real estate development and hospitality as the founder and CEO of Khan Properties Group.

Khan Properties focuses on a hybrid model of housing and hospitality specializing in renovation and expansion of existing properties as well as new construction projects in the Pacific Northwest. Khan Properties Group has expanded its real estate portfolio into retail and food and beverage. Khan and his group are exploring partnerships with nationwide companies to further innovate and expand the residential and hospitality offerings in the area. Current projects and ventures include Gilbert Block in Seaside, three multifamily

developments in Seaside and the Ocean Crest Resort in Moclips, Washington.

Rodriguez is transit district employee of year

Sunset Empire Transportation District staff has selected Stephanie Rodriguez as the 2021 Employee of The Year.

Rodriguez has been an employee at the district since 2016 when she began working in Ride Care, the district's non-emergent medical transportation service. When Ride Care was discontinued, Tillamook County Transportation took over the brokerage service and hired Rodriguez.

Rodriguez worked in Tillamook for several months, but in 2018 she returned to Sunset Empire Transportation. Rodriguez has learned many jobs and her knowledge is valuable, staff said, providing customer service for riders at the Astoria Transit Center, provides Paratransit scheduling and dispatch at operations and assists drivers and staff however she can.



Masudur Khan



Stephanie Rodriguez

Business Directory

CONSTRUCTION

BOB McEWAN CONSTRUCTION, INC.

EXCAVATION • UNDERGROUND UTILITIES
ROAD WORK • FILL MATERIAL
SITE PREPARATION • ROCK

OWNED AND OPERATED BY MIKE AND CELINE McEWAN

503-738-3569

34154 Hwy 26, Seaside, OR
P.O. Box 2845, Gearhart, OR

SERVING THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST SINCE 1956 • CC48302

REAL ESTATE

Melissa Eddy
REAL ESTATE BROKER

Your real estate vision is my expertise.

melissaeddy@windermere.com
beachhomerealtor.com
503-440-3258

Windermere REAL ESTATE

ELECTRICAL

Borland
COASTAL ELECTRIC, INC.

FOR YOUR COMPLETE ELECTRICAL NEEDS

Serving the North Oregon Coast since 1950!

Serving Clatsop & Tillamook Counties
503.738.8391

CCB#3226

ELECTRICAL

JJ ELECTRIC SERVICE

CCB #198257

CALL US for your next electrical project!

503-739-7145
712 S. Holladay Dr. • Seaside, OR
Monday-Friday 8am-5pm
www.jjelectricservice.com

- New Construction
- Remodels
- Panel Changes & Upgrades
- Add Circuits or Lighting
- Generators
- Repairs

FLOORING

COREtec
the Original

Luxury vinyl planks and tile.

you walk on our reputation

Carpet Corner
Flooring Installation

3470 Hwy 101 Suite 102 • Gearhart, Oregon
503.739.7577 • carpetcornergearhart.com

CCB# 205283

FLOORING

Randall Lee's 0% FINANCING AVAILABLE

Flooring America.

Window Treatments, Fabric, Designer Wallpaper, Counter Tops, All Flooring and Miele Vacuums

Visit Our Outlet!

Randall Lee's Seaside • 2311 N. Roosevelt Dr. • 503-738-5729
rfflooring@yahoo.com • www.RandallLeesFlooring.com

Randall Lee's Flooring Outlet • 3579 Hwy 101 Gearhart • 503-738-6756
Warehouse pricing • Open to the Public • Hundreds of instock rolls & remnants • In House Binding

LANDSCAPING

YARD DEBRIS DROP-OFF (no scotch broom)

- Laurelwood Compost
- Soil Amendments
- Planting MacMix
- Mulch

503-717-1454
34154 HIGHWAY 26 SEASIDE, OR

Laurelwood Farm

CHILD CARE

New Bees
Early Childhood Development Center

Quality Child Care
Optimal Learning Environment

Infants
Toddlers
Preschool
After School

503.717.2364
www.newbeescdc.com

CONSTRUCTION

COWAN CUSTOM FINISHING

We work in Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook county!
NOW LICENSED IN WASHINGTON!

503-791-7473
acowan1216@gmail.com

Decks, Fences, Siding, Rot Repair, Windows and Doors

CCB# 225044

REAL ESTATE

John L Scott
REAL ESTATE

Chuck Overton, LLC
Principal Broker CRS, ABR
John L. Scott Real Estate
120 Rosevelt Dr
Seaside, Oregon 97138
Direct: 503-440-2653
email: beachhouse.overton@gmail.com

ADVERTISING

YOUR AD HERE!

Our Business Directory is an inexpensive way for your business to advertise with us!

CALL SARAH SILVER 503-325-3211

to discuss new and exciting ways to promote your business on the North Coast