

Home Share: Making matches

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ple on the process, as well as the many benefits.

"It's a great way to expand access to housing and make sure people have a safe and comfortable place to be," she said.

For older homeowners, home-sharing can not only help them cover mortgage costs and bolster financial resiliency, but it also can help alleviate loneliness and isolation and improve their overall wellbeing. Among the aging population, Frei said, individuals who live with others and have a sense of community "do much better in all aspects of their health."

Making the system work

The Home Share Oregon technology is county specific. Individuals who are interested in either aspect of the home-share process can set up an individual account and create a profile that covers details about their optimal living situation, life-

style, roommate preferences and more.

"These are really important questions to ask oneself," Fields said. "Combatibility is really key to a successful home-sharing experience."

Individuals are matched to housemates or homeowners who are compatible, and they can begin the screening process. Since launching, nearly 350 homeowners across the state have established a profile, and more than 1,100 housemates have searched for a space. The program has facilitated nearly 250 background screenings and at least 30 people have self-confirmed that they've matched up.

Providence is helping to implement the program in their North Coast service area through branding and messaging. They're disseminating the information not only among their own employees, but the community at large. They've also assigned a staff member, Justin Abbott, to provide support to North Coast residents and to field applications.

School: Seeking zone change

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facility, community meeting building, or school.

Since their purchase, they have removed portable units, repainted buildings in earth tones, removed diseased and dying trees and helped the school district remove playground equipment to the new location in Seaside.

They constructed a personal vegetable and flower garden at the north end of the property. They fenced the site to prevent unwanted encroachments and discourage potential vandalism. Owners have been conducting due diligence regarding environmental conditions, transportation and site infrastructure.

The Moreys said their goals are to preserve the main school building, create an "exciting entryway" in the city's central core, and provide "needed housing consistent with city and county goals."

The Moreys plan to consolidate tax lots to create

a "clean slate" for present and future owners. They will seek a comprehensive plan map amendment to change land use classification from public/semi-public to residential and apply to rezone the entire 8 1/2 acre site.

The subdivision could include two to four residential units in the school building, and 20 to 22 residential units one- or two-bedroom cottages or duplexes primarily located in the northwest corner of the property and along Pacific Way.

The proposed redevelopment will include preservation and reuse of the main school building, construction of cottage-style housing in two or more locations, on-site amenities for the future residents, required parking, respect of the existing wetland and floodplain, compliance with the tsunami hazard overlay, required transportation improvements along Pacific Way and landscape enhancements.

The proposal will not include public park use.

Vacancies: Multiple jobs open

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pursue the search, interviewing and screening prospective managers. The council will consider candidates based on the results of the outreach in May.

The city manager's job is one of three top positions available in Seaside, along with Seaside Civic and Convention Center General Manager Russ Vandenberg and Planning Director Kevin Cupples, who retired in February.

Convention Center General Manager Russ Vandenberg officially announced his retirement at last Monday's City Council meeting. Vandenberg joined the city in 2005, and presided over the growth and renovation of the convention center.

"You know, retiring from a position you love and the community you call home is not easy," Vandenberg said. "And quite frankly I've struggled with that entire process. It has been a profound honor and privilege to serve in the capacity of general manager. For the better part of 16 years, my goal has always been to leave the center and visitors bureau better than I found it."

Today, he said, the center is a state-of-the-art venue recognized throughout the state as one of the most successful venues of its type.

When Cupples announced he was leaving to pursue personal and family interests, the city named code enforcement

officer Jeff Flory is acting planning director for the time being, Assistant City Manager Jon Rahl said.

The planning department, part of the community development team, includes building and planning administrative assistant Jordan Sprague, emergency preparedness coordinator Anne McBride and building official Bob Mitchell.

"It really helps to have some consistency in the process and so having Jeff as the acting planning director with the opportunity to work with some contractors is the way we're approaching that right now," Rahl said.

Police Chief Dave Ham announced the departure of Sgt. Johannes Korpela and the promotion of Jess Vaughn to patrol sergeant, leaving one vacancy on the force.

Public works is seeking to hire a water foreman, Rahl said, who plans, organizes and supervises the operation and maintenance of the water treatment plant, pump stations, head works and distribution system.

The city is hiring for summer beach lifeguards at \$16.50-20 per hour and seasonal summer public works help is sought.

The Seaside Library is looking for a library assistant in youth services, a part-time position. Applicants are expected to have extensive knowledge about teen reading materials, knowledge of the Dewey Decimal system, computer skills and solid communication skills.

Rec center: Projects to come on case-by-case basis

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right now, Ousley said.

"We're already a child care desert in Clatsop County," Ousley said. "There's not a lot of options. In the past five years, we've lost a lot of spaces for kids."

While the park district has enough space, staff vacancies remain to be filled, she said. "We are at capacity now," Ousley said. "We do have a waiting list. But we've been hiring more folks, and we're actually finding people."

The park district has expanded indoor recreation opportunities for the community, Archibald said, including fitness classes in the library area and a walking track that could utilize the building's one-mile loop of hall corridor.

"We've offered over 1,000 hours of rental space to basketball teams in our community and we've hosted five PBL tournament weekends," he said. "Those can average any-



Kelly Smith, at desk, welcomes a group of preschoolers, and a canine visitor, Cosmo. The Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District's Melissa Ousley is at right.

where in between 60 and 100 teams."

The heating and cooling system "does not work very efficiently," Archibald said, with heat spreading unevenly — and in some rooms oppressively — throughout the building.

The roof and win-

dows will also need to be upgraded.

The strategic plan is expected to be delivered at the end of this month.

While the cost of the purchase was \$2.15 million, the district received a loan of \$2.5 to cover immediate maintenance needs.

Future projects will come on a case-by-case basis, Archibald said.

"What we'd like to figure out is our highest need right now," he said. "Let's fix this. Let's improve this. Over time, I think you'll start to see the value."

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