



## CLASS OF 2022



Seaside High School graduates celebrate during the school's ceremony.

Photos by Katherine Lacaze

## Seaside seniors are stars at graduation

### Grads 'grow and succeed' with help of each other

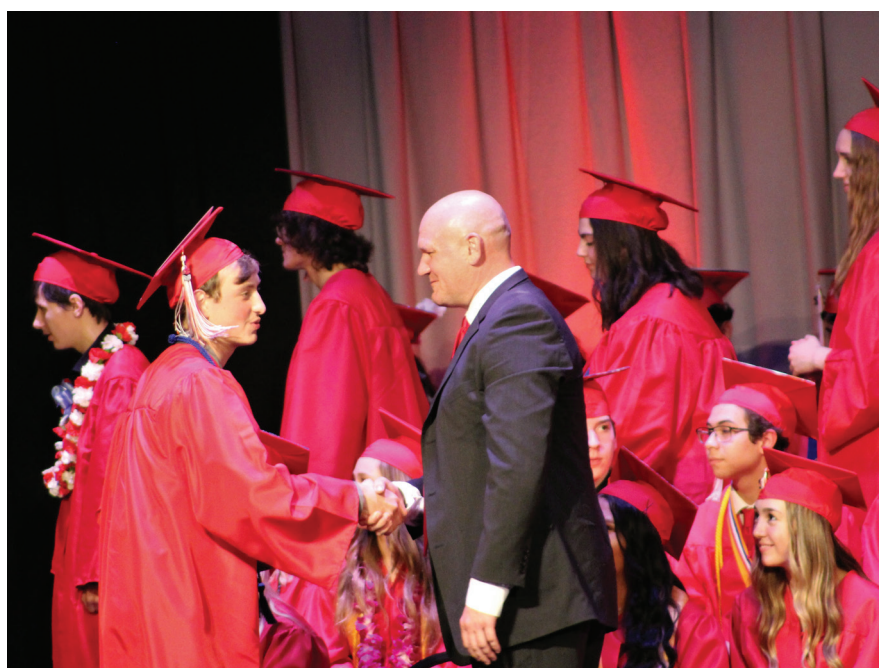
By KATHERINE LACAZE  
For Seaside Signal

Gathering in the Seaside Civic and Convention Center, surrounded by a flurry of flowing red gowns and a large crowd of spectators carrying signs, flowers and balloons, there were no indicators of COVID-19 in a graduation ceremony that had all the markings of a normal year.

Yet the pandemic inevitably cropped up in the speeches delivered by graduating seniors, whose upper-class years at Seaside High School were defined by this worldwide event.

"The pandemic was a circumstance we were never supposed to go through, but we did, and that is what makes our

See Graduation, Page A5



Seaside School District board chair Brian Taylor congratulates Class of 2022 graduate Skyler Archibald during Seaside High School's graduation ceremony June 9.

## Upgrades coming to Broadway, Highway 101 intersection

### Infrastructure projects in Seaside run through 2027

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside Signal

New signals and turn lanes coming to U.S. 101 and Broadway will replace signals, add turn lanes, install a transit stop and make other improvements to help traffic flow smoother along the route.

The \$5.2 million effort is one of eight projects selected for the 2024-2027 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program's Enhance funding. Projects in this category are aimed at improving safety and reducing congestion on some of Oregon's busiest roadways.

"This project is years in the making to bring funding, utility providers, ODOT and their team of professional engineers and consultants and the City of Seaside all together to improve traffic on U.S.

See Upgrades, Page A6

## McCloud named interim CEO of Seaside chamber

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside Signal

Katie McCloud joined the Seaside Chamber of Commerce a little over a year ago. Last week, the board of directors announced she will be serving as the chamber's interim CEO if the position is unfilled by July.

Brian Owen, the outgoing CEO, was named general manager of the Seaside Civic and Convention Center in May. He has served as the chamber's CEO since 2016.

See Chamber, Page A6

## After crash damage, fundraiser aims to restore historic mural

### Work captures history of Clatsop-Nehalem tribes

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside Signal

An empty portion of a wall along Broadway needs an assist. The 60-foot-long mural mounted on the Ace Hardware building was damaged in November and sent for repair.

To complete the cultural history art piece, a GoFundMe fundraiser is underway to benefit the Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes to restore and repair the historic mural.

"A lot of people are pitch-

ing in, and of course the people at the hardware store are always awesome to let us do and have this on the side of the building," tribe member and architectural representative Todd Lawson said. "This just makes the building better for everybody. It's a great location."

The mural, by artist Roger Cooke, "brought the culture and heritage of the Clatsop and Nehalem people to downtown Seaside," organizers wrote in a GoFundMe post.

Cooke, a Sandy resident who died in 2012, is best known for his historical depictions of Northwest tribes.

He painted more than 60 murals across the country and illustrated several books, working closely with Clatsop and Nehalem to bring the mural to Seaside.

The 60-foot-long mural



R.J. Marx

A fundraising campaign is underway to replace the mural on the Ace Hardware building along Broadway, damaged in November.

mounted on the Ace Hardware building in 2008 celebrates Seaside's Native American history and iconic Necanicum Estuary and Tillamook Head. On the left of the mural are elders of the tribe. Among vignettes are a man carving a canoe and children playing on the beach.

The mural also includes historic images of Tos-

tum, headman of the Clatsop in the mid-1800s, and Joe Scovell, chief of the Nehalem. In November, a car went over the curb, up on the sidewalk, and damaged the mural. This incident, along with years of wear and tear, left the mural in desperate need of restoration.

See Mural, Page A6

## Fireworks are planned as donors help meet costs

### Seaside closes the shortfall

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside Signal

Members of the Seaside Chamber of Commerce and the Seaside Visitors Bureau, along with business backers, are teaming to bring back a July Fourth fireworks show in Seaside.

The chamber received a \$25,000 grant from a Seaside Visitors Bureau tourism grant, but needs to raise an additional \$55,000 for this year's display. A \$10,000 payment for next year's show is due in November.

Amid a donation campaign, chamber CEO Brian Owen is confident they are well on their way to filling the gap.

"With over three weeks

until the event, we are on track if the donations continue at this pace," he said.

Western Display Fireworks will run the fireworks, which begin at 10 p.m. Grocery Outlet is the presenting sponsor.

In past years, the show has brought nearly 50,000 people to Seaside and serves as the kickoff to the summer season. Officials estimate a \$20 million economic impact to the city.

The last show was in 2019, as the city curtailed events during the pandemic.

Katie McCloud, marketing and events manager of the chamber, acknowledged the rapid approach of the holiday.

"While we are on a short time limit, we are confident that the

See Fireworks, Page A6



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