



Mill Ponds campsite considered temporary

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

The city met with representatives of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board in late July to determine the future of the Mill Ponds Natural History Park parking lot area. Since the passage of the city's homeless camping ordinance, the site has been used for tent camping and RV parking.

City Councilor Steve Wright, who attended the remote meeting with Mayor Jay Barber, said the Mill Ponds site off of Alder Mill Avenue has never been regarded as permanent.

"We made that clear," Wright said. "We also have been able to clean up most of the illegal campsites, removing large amounts of hazardous material. Overall, the site is in the best condition in recent years."

The state and city staff decided to regularly have conversations about future plans, he added.

See Mill Ponds, Page A3

VACATION RENTALS

Appeal denied as neighbors decry changing neighborhood

Property on 14th Avenue meets city conditions

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

Frank "Corey" Buck didn't succeed in his appeal of the decision to permit a vacation rental dwelling, but he did assemble community members to the City Council meeting to share their concerns about the disappearing sense of neighborhood in Seaside.

Buck went to the council seeking to overturn a Planning Commission conditional approval of a vacation rental dwelling at 430 N. 14th Ave., next to his home. The property is a one-bedroom rental with a maximum occupancy of five people. The building compliance inspection remains to be completed.

See Appeal, Page A3

Park district receives grants for infant care

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

The Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District will use \$50,000 in grants to create nine infant and toddler care slots.

"I'm all on board, because there's a significant need in this community," board president Katharine Parker said at the July 26 park district meeting. "This is something positive for our community to be able to say we're supporting families working in our community."

The park district received \$30,000 from the Roundhouse Community Founda-

tion and \$20,000 from the Northwest Regional Education Service District's Early Learning Hub, Skyler Archibald, the park district's executive director, said.

"We recognize that the community need for this program is far greater than this," Archibald said, estimating that there are 350 to 400 children in the district in the program's age group. The grants come amid a national conversation about the importance of child care, a shortage of care providers and an acute need in Clatsop County.

During the past 18 months, there has been a closure or discontinuation of services of other



Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District
Young artist at a Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District day care program.

See Infant care, Page A3



Violet Hanna, from Palm Springs, California, participates in the chalk art contest.

R.J. Marx

Ready, Set, Draw!

Chalk art contest in Seaside adds color, competition and more fun to the Prom



Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District

Seaside Signal

Those were the instructions Saturday morning as contestants in the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District Chalk Art Contest put chalk to pavement and began their work.

For a \$35 fee, participants received boxes of pastel chalk — two sizes — paint sponges, candies, snacks and water.

"They provide knee pads for you, they have wipes, they have finger cots, everything you need to do art on the Prom," said Robin Montero, who participated with her granddaughter, Eliza Hamilton.

See Chalk art, Page A5



R.J. Marx

LEFT: 'Koi Pond,' by Nicole Perez, won 'Best Kids Entry' and the 'People's Choice Award' at the chalk art contest. ABOVE: Eliza Hamilton at the chalk art contest.

Moberg leaves a legacy at Seaside Library

Library director to take new role as Warrenton city manager

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

Following an executive session on July 29, the Warrenton City Commission voted unanimously to offer the city manager position to Esther Moberg, the Seaside library director. The offer is pending contract negotiations.

Moberg has nearly a decade of local government management experience, both as library director and public information officer. In 2017, she was named president of the Oregon Library Association, in

which she advocated for the state's public and school libraries.

As library director, Moberg focused on nonprofit funding, creating the Seaside Library Foundation and an endowment for the library's reading outreach program.

"We're in such great shape here," Moberg said. "I have such amazing staff that I actually feel OK about moving on, in a big sense. It's in good hands. After 10 years I don't think it hurts to have someone new come in and add some value to what I've already done."

In May, members of the Seaside City Council announced that Moberg was one of three finalists for city manager to replace Winstanley. Spencer Kyle ultimately won the job.



Esther Moberg

See Moberg, Page A3

