



A wedding for everyone

THE ERICA BOISMENU & JOHN ELSTON WEDDING

STORY BY NANCY MCCARTHY • PHOTOS BY JULIE ADAMS

Nobody was left out of Erica Boismenu's and John Elston's wedding, not even their dog.

When the couple said their "I dos" at the Surfsand Resort last Oct. 24, Captain Tuttle (a Cavachon — cross between a Cavalier King Charles spaniel and a bichon frise — named after a fictional character in the television series "Mash"), ran down the aisle, the wedding rings attached to a pillow tied around her chest.

"Everybody busted out laughing," said John. "It was really an incredible day."

The couple met through an online dating service.

Erica, who lived in Bend, had created a basic profile but didn't buy an upgrade to see her potential matches' photos. During a "free weekend," she read the profile of

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a match that intrigued her, and she wrote him a message.

But John, whose home was in Kent, Wash., had forgotten that he had once subscribed to the dating service, although he had been paying for it automatically. When he went to clean out his email account, he

found Erica's message and replied.

As their relationship grew, the two would often meet in Cannon Beach or Seaside for the weekend. Both had traveled to the coast as children, and both felt it was special.

"It has always been a place to have fun and also a place for renewal," said John.

When it came time to plan for the wedding, the couple wanted to "create a magical space for all of our guests," Erica said.

Everything fell into place. They chose the Fireside Room at the Surfsand for their ceremony, which was attended by about 45 guests, including parents and an aunt and uncle from Boston. "We wanted it to be very intimate," said Erica. >>