

SEASIDE CITY COUNCIL



NANCY MCCARTHY PHOTO

Seaside's newest city councilor, Seth Morrisey, left, is sworn in by City Manager Mark Winstanley. Morrisey, who was elected in November, is filling the vacancy left by former City Councilor Stubby Lyons. Lyons resigned last spring.

# Seaside council sworn in for another term

## Seth Morrisey takes council seat for the first time; fills Stubby Lyons' spot

By Nancy McCarthy  
Seaside Signal

It was a night of firsts for both the youngest and the oldest member of the Seaside City Council Jan. 12.

Seth Morrisey was sworn in as city councilor to fill a term left vacant by former Councilor Stubby Lyons. A few minutes later, Don Larson was sworn in as mayor for his fourth term, which he believes is unprecedented in Seaside.

Councilors Dana Phillips, Tita Montero and Jay Barber were also sworn in for their second terms. Councilors Don Johnson and Randy Frank were not up for re-election last November.

Larson called Morrisey a "wonderful, new, young asset" to the City Council.

The mayor also said he was looking forward to four more years. "We're doing our best to make Seaside be the best around," he added.

Larson said he was anxious for the council to continue setting goals. Among his priorities is the annexation of the property south of Seaside and opening a boat ramp "whether we reopen it where it is (on

Oceanway) or move it somewhere else."

He also wants the council to find some way to keep skateboards and bicycles off of downtown sidewalks.

"There is an ordinance that bicycles follow cars, and cars do not use the sidewalk," said Larson, adding, "Someday I'm going to get hit by a skateboard."

Following his short speech, Larson sat down in his chair at the dais, which was surrounded by balloons with congratulatory messages, including one that said, "You rock!"



NANCY MCCARTHY PHOTO

Mayor Don Larson's chair was surrounded by congratulatory balloons during the City Council meeting Jan. 12. Larson began his fourth term as Seaside mayor.

## Letters to the Editor

### Angels in heaven

To the editor,  
They say our children are the future; I look at them as God's angels. Children are the bright spot in the world, but recently two of those bright spots went out.

Two little angels were taken away in an unspeakable manner and will never have all the chances and happiness they deserve. Children look to parents to keep them safe, guide them and, most of all, love them always. Children should always be made to feel they are the most important gift and never feel pain, neglect or be afraid. Kids shouldn't have to be put through any type of abuse. After all, they are just kids.

God took two little angels home and will be their protector when they were too young to protect themselves.

Give your little angels all the love and protect them from all the bad. Please don't let another angel be taken away.

Jenny McCollister  
Seaside

### Expansion suggestion

To the editor,  
A suggestion for the expansion of the Seaside Civic and Convention Center: Build a multistory parking garage on the adjacent center parking lot, similar to the nearby one at the time-share property, except that the ground floor would be a large convention meeting space room. Leave room at ground level for RVs, buses, etc. Provide a second-story walkover access from the main building as well as a street level entrance. Leave the river alone.

Robert Kroning  
Seaside

### Public 'pout'

To the editor,  
Gearhart is very fortunate to have a mayor and a council that will defend the laws of the community as they have been put in place by generations of caring citizens.

Now one man and his clique are mounting an extended and expensive campaign to override some of these laws and allow them to do what no other citizens would be allowed to do. This effort can only be recognized and treated as an extended public "pout."

Dianne Widdop, his target, is a public treasure — she's honest, fair, open-minded and kind as anyone who knows her is happy to verify. Count your blessings that she is defending Gearhart!

Sally Mannex  
Gearhart

### Thanks from Toys for Tots

Toys for Tots would like to take this opportunity to thank the donors of toys and monetary value in this last collection campaign and the toy-drop places.

We raised \$1,250 to purchase toys and books. We put smiles on the faces of a large amount of children this past Christmas.

The toys, books and games given out not only to children but also to senior adults total 20,871 distributed items. Remember, Toys for Tots here

on the North Coast covers Clatsop County only. We do not distribute gifts; we collect and give them to the area Food Baskets program, Wishing Tree program and Giving Tree program.

The area coordinators and I want to say thanks to all of you.

**Area Coordinators:**  
**William and Pat Kankkonen**  
**Tim Flynn**  
**Beverly Neubecker**  
**Curtis and Florence Peugh**  
**Tanya Wammack**  
**PO3 Tricia L Lichtenfels (USCG Air Base)**  
**SFE Kimberly Wright (ORNG Camp Rilea)**  
**and the USS Alert**  
**County Coordinator:**  
**Lou Neubecker**  
**Seaside**

### Misleading headlines

To the editor,  
I am troubled by the coverage in the Daily A and the Seaside Signal about the effort to recall Mayor Dianne Widdop of Gearhart. Headlines have been misleading and more attention-grabbing than necessary to describe the workings of the Gearhart City Council and Mayor Widdop's role.

Coverage has been fairly factual but, to me, at least, slanted to give the impression that Mayor Widdop, a longtime Gearhart resident and a member of the Gearhart city government for many years, has made unforgivable mistakes. The truth is she has done nothing illegal, unethical, or immoral in this instance. She has acknowledged her mistakes and has apologized appropriately.

It's not easy to be a public figure. When one takes on this role, one learns quickly that one has multiple constituents and can't please them all. It's an impossible scenario, and all one can do is act in the best interests of the agency to which one is responsible. One must have a very thick skin to be a public figure.

What troubles me most, particularly after I attended the recent Wellness kickoff in which we discussed how to improve the health of our community, is that city and county governments are often painful places to work and serve because of the injured feelings of those who don't get their own way and decide to make the lives miserable of those who serve. The health of our larger community is damaged because of the behavior of small groups who attack committed individuals who serve the community.

As a Unitarian Universalist minister for many years, I have experienced the misery of being attacked by a small group because I made mistakes occasionally. It grinds down one's resilience and causes unnecessary pain to a person who is only trying to do a job they care about. It is particularly troubling to me that a person with Mayor Widdop's history of fine performance is being treated cruelly for no good reason.

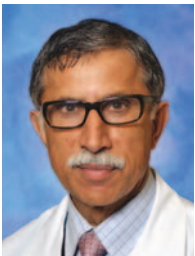
I'm reminded of the ancient and universal wisdom of representatives of many religions and secular humanitarian agencies: Do justice, be kind, be humble. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Love your neighbor.

Rev. Kit Ketcham  
Gearhart



## Growing to serve you

Providence welcomes a new cardiologist.



Masud Ahmad, M.D., FACC, FSCAI  
Cardiologist

Providence is growing to better serve north coast families and communities. Heart specialist Masud Ahmad, M.D., is joining Robert Morse, D.O., and the cardiology team on the north coast. Welcome, Dr. Ahmad!

Board certified in cardiovascular disease and interventional cardiology, Dr. Ahmad divides his time between Providence St. Vincent Heart Clinic-Cardiology and Providence Medical

Group-Seaside. He speaks English, Arabic, Hindi and Urdu. When not seeing patients, Dr. Ahmad enjoys traveling, biking and spending time at home in Arch Cape.

Call 503-717-7556 to schedule an appointment. We accept most health insurance plans. For more information, visit [www.providence.org/northcoast](http://www.providence.org/northcoast).



SEASIDE FACTORY OUTLET CENTER

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WINTER HOURS (JANUARY-MARCH):  
SUNDAY-THURSDAY 10-6, FRIDAY-SATURDAY 10-8

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