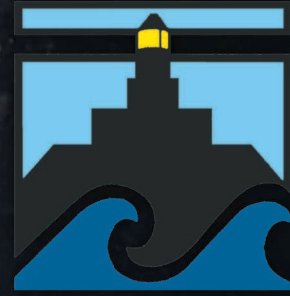


SEASIDE Signal



Fireworks display in Seaside.
R.J. MARX/SEASIDE SIGNAL

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Patriotic pirates storm Seaside



R.J. MARX/SEASIDE SIGNAL

Beach Drive Buccaneers at the parade.



Sun shines on July Fourth parade

By R.J. Marx
Seaside Signal

Saying “Arrrr” in your finest pirate voice is a signature of the Beach Drive Buccaneers. Their proudest moments come every July Fourth as they anchor the parade and lead the post-holiday cleanup, too. Just look for the all-terrain vehicle on the beach with the pirate flag.

The statewide beach cleanup team, SOLVE, provides the bags to the Buccaneers, who share it with Seaside’s

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R.J. MARX/SEASIDE SIGNAL

Miss Oregon Harley Emery.



Convention center redo drives high city budget

Spending plan inches near \$75 million

By R.J. Marx
Seaside Signal

Boosted by \$30 million in transfers for upgrades to the Seaside Civic and Convention Center, the Seaside City Council on Monday, June 26, approved a budget inching near \$75 million.

This fiscal year’s total, by comparison, stood at \$41.4 million. City Manager Mark Winstanley said the new budget is the highest he has seen in 32 years.

Bonds for the convention center renovation will be sold for \$15 million, then transferred to construction funds.

Capital improvements, designed to accommodate larger groups, will add about 10,000 square feet to the 62,000-square-foot convention center. To pay for the renovation, city councilors raised the lodging tax from 8 percent to 10 percent in November. The additional tourist revenue will be used to repay construction bonds over a 20- to 30-year period. The \$15 million renovation is planned to begin March 2018,

New firefighter, health increases

The new budget is for the fiscal year that begins in July.

The city’s general fund, which covers the mayor, council, city attorney, business office, library and community center, experienced a bump from \$5.8 million to \$6.4 million, Winstanley said.

The city budget lists 30 funds overall, among them, public works, the downtown maintenance district and public safety, with a budget of \$5.7 million. Comprised of fire, police, lifeguards and Municipal Court, this year’s public safety fund stood at \$4.3 million.

Marijuana taxes, included for the first time as a public safety budget line, are expected to reach \$15,000. Liquor taxes are budgeted at more than \$100,000 in revenue.

Health, medical and dental costs are going up across the board. The police department

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Going ‘native’ in Seaside

Botanical artist Dorota Haber-Lehigh’s garden celebrates Northwest beauty

By Nancy McCarthy
For Seaside Signal

At first, Dorota Haber-Lehigh and her husband, David Lehigh, tried growing grass in their shady, wetland front yard just below Tillamook Head. But after several years, they realized it was a losing battle.

The grass didn’t get enough sun, and they had to reseed it every year. Water flooded it in the winter,

and it would be ruined when deer walked over it.

So, Dorota, a botanical illustrator who is devoted to preserving local native plants, decided to recreate a native forest surrounding their home in the Seaside Cove area.

Now, the half-acre yard is a happy home to salal, skunk cabbage, deer and sword ferns, huckleberries — both red and blue — vine maple, and other native species.

“We stopped fighting the grass and started allowing whatever wanted to grow there,” Dorota said.

Some of the plants are “rescues” she collected, with permission from Superintendent Sheila Roley, from the hillside east of Seaside

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Campus falling into place

Logging makes way for Seaside’s new schools

By Brenna Visser
Seaside Signal

The new Seaside School District campus sits 200 to 300 feet above sea level with a panoramic view of the Pacific Ocean.

The breathtaking beauty is not only a reminder of life on the coast, but the earthquake and tsunami danger that prompted the move to higher ground. “Yes, this view is nice, but the nicest thing about this is our schools not being wiped out by a big wave,” Seaside School Dis-



COLIN MURPHEY/EO MEDIA

The project to move Seaside schools to higher ground has been in the works for nearly three decades.

trict Superintendent Sheila Roley said. “We needed new schools, but safety for all kids was the catalyst.”

Forty-two acres of the

city’s largely wooded backdrop have been logged and cleared so far to make way for

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