



ALLAN ERICKSON

Above, smoke billow upward from the fire at Avenue S in Seaside. Right, emergency personnel respond to the blaze.



NEAL MAINE/FOR SEASIDE SIGNAL

Going up, up, up to fight fires

New \$1.2M firefighting apparatus

By R.J. Marx
Seaside Signal

In about 18 months, Seaside Fire and Rescue will be the proud owner of a new tractor-drawn aerial quint.

The nearly \$1.2 million firefighting apparatus provides five functions: pump, water tank, fire hose, aerial device and ground ladders.

The ladder will reach 100 feet — 25 feet more than the fire department's 75-foot ladder truck — to meet the needs of Seaside's tallest buildings, Fire Chief Joey Daniels said at the Dec. 11 meeting of Seaside's city council.

The tractor-drawn aerial, known as the tiller, will offer navigability down the city's narrow one-way streets.

"Through training and viewing of it, we found the tractor-drawn aerial — the tiller — would be a lot more versatile for our city," Daniels said.

In addition, the new rig will fit in the city's Broadway fire station without the need to make building modifications.

The bid was presented by General Fire Apparatus, based in Spokane.

The second bid was only \$2,600 higher, Daniels said, requiring meticulous review of a 365-page proposal and multiple trips to test-drive vehicles.

The department's 75-foot ladder truck will remain in use while the new vehicle is built to specifications. Daniels said. The engine will take about eight to 11 months for delivery and the truck about 12 to 18 months.

Funds for the apparatus, to be manufactured by Rosenbauer America, will come from the fire department's levy fund, Daniels said. He thanked voters for their support.

City councilors unanimously endorsed the purchase.

"This is going to be such a great addition to the safety of our city," Mayor Jay Barber said. "We'll be able to reach places we can't right now."

Fire engulfs Seaside home

EO Media Group

A mother and her young son were evacuated a fire that engulfed a house Wednesday, Dec. 13, at 719 Avenue S in Seaside.

The fire started around 1:30 p.m. and burned through all of the two-story house. Prior to evacuating the home, and a mother noticed smoke com-

ing from the main floor. She attempted to contain the initial flames, but when the fire moved to a nearby wall and the two left the home immediately.

While the cause is still under investigation, the fast-burning fire moved quickly to the second floor where fire crews required aerial apparatus to manage the flames. According to Hamlet Fire,

rews knocked the fire down quickly, but the structure's design made overhaul complicated and it took several hours to fully extinguish.

The American Red Cross responded to the scene and is providing resources to the displaced family. Seaside Fire and Rescue was supported by crews from Cannon Beach Fire and Rescue, Gearhart Volunteer

Fire Department, Warrenton Fire Department and the Hamlet Rural Fire Protection District. Additional Clatsop County resources were also utilized for coverage in the county.

"Judging by what we are seeing right now, this house will probably be a total loss without going inside," Seaside Fire Division Chief David Rankin said.

Legion Post 99 presents a salute to veterans

Oldest Clatsop County survivor attends Pearl Harbor remembrance

By R.J. Marx
Seaside Signal

For members of Seaside American Legion Post 99, December is an important month for veterans. The legion post offers an annual community holiday dinner for the homeless and needy on Saturday, Dec. 23, from 3 to 6 p.m.

Those who are not homeless and needy are also invited and encouraged to partake for a small donation to support this cause. Diners will be served turkey and ham with stuffing, veggies, mashed potatoes and gravy and more.

The month opened with a Pearl Harbor Day observance at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center.

Pearl Harbor Day has special significance in Seaside. "It means everything," the



Gretchen Jolly serves up plates of spaghetti at the American Legion Post 99 in Seaside during a Veterans Day event. The legion will be serving the homeless and needy Dec. 23.

COLIN MURPHEY/
EO MEDIA GROUP

'(Spurgeon Keeth) is our only survivor in Clatsop County'

Kim Wright
American Legion Post 99

post's Kim Wright said.

The presence of Clatsop County's remaining Pearl Harbor survivor, Spurgeon D. Keeth, held special meaning for those who gathered in Seaside on Dec. 7. "This is our only survivor in Clatsop County," Wright said. "Unfortunately we lost Bill Thomas."

Seaside's Thomas, 95, who was a sailor in the U.S. Navy and stationed on the USS Me-

dusa, died one year ago.

"We hate losing anyone," Jeannie Petermann, the chaplain of the legion post, said. "It's just part of life. But you've got to remember them. That's what the legion does."

Velva Bradish, who provided assistance to the 92-year-old Keeth, met him at Camp Rilea, where she works in the restaurant. "We heard Spurgeon likes to be around military guys," Bradish said. "They love him. They crowd around him. They feed him. They shake his hand. They sing to him."

What is the message they receive from Keeth?

"To be humble," Bradish replied.

The legion post presents a dinner for veterans and homeless on Dec. 23.



ROSENBAUER AMERICA

Tractor-drawn aerial apparatus similar to the type purchased by Seaside Fire and Rescue.

OBITUARIES

Donna (Layton) Clark Portland

Feb. 7, 1946 — Dec. 11, 2017

After a short illness, Donna passed away on Dec. 11. Donna was born in Portland and raised in Seaside, Oregon. She graduated from Seaside High School in 1964.

Donna and Paul were married July 1, 1966. Moving to Portland, she worked as a secretary until her daughters Lorrie and Amanda came along, and then became a stay-at-home mom. Later she worked 15 years as a school secretary at Mount Tabor Middle School, retiring at the age of 55.



Donna's name.

Donna was fiercely loyal, and devoted to her many lifelong friends and family. She is survived by her husband, Paul; daughters Lorrie Crooks (Slade) and Amanda Saunders (Eric); and four grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be held Dec. 23 at 12:30 p.m. at the Kennedy School, 5736 N.E. 33rd Ave. in Portland.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Oregon Humane Society in

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