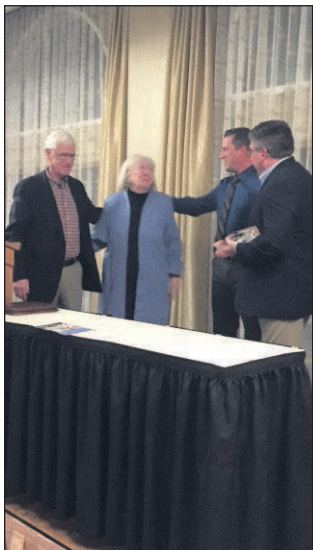


# Chamber celebrates a year of accomplishment



## Volunteers are honored

By R.J. Marx  
Seaside Signal

The city's business elite came out in force Feb. 15 to celebrate a year of civic accomplishment at the Seaside Chamber of Commerce Annual Award Dinner.

"One of the biggest years ever," chamber Executive Director Brian Owen said from the podium of the Best Western Oceanview Resort banquet room.

Members and guests celebrated staff, a new board, volunteerism and local businesses.

With a theme of "We are Growing," table decorations offered metal buckets and seed packages.

"It's all about the success of the community and it's all about the business and community leaders who are growing and thriving in Seaside," the city's visitor information specialist Ken Heman said.

Seven award-winners received recognition and applause.

Sue Pickell garnered an award for lifetime achievement for her years of volunteerism. She congratulated the chamber and its members. "I can see the growth," Pickell said in accepting her honor. "Seaside is the greatest place

to live and you guys are making it happen."

A standing ovation greeted Nancy McCune as she accepted the Byron Award, named after legendary local volunteer Byron Meeks and presented to a member of the Seaside community who has shown outstanding qualities in community service.

## A new year ahead

As the chamber closed out one year, its director looked ahead. Chamber events Pouring at the Coast, beach volleyball, Fourth of July fireworks, Hood to Coast and Yuletide in Seaside will see registration upgrades and increased social media presence.

"This year we're going to focus on a true strategic plan," Owen said. "We're going to have a plan that's going to build into the future. We're going to have ideas on structure, where we want to go and how we're going to get there."

Owen said the chamber aims to "set the stage" for growth by becoming a hub for Seaside businesses.

The chamber will also look for advocacy partners.

"The biggest challenge is to work with our politicians in an advocacy role, either in the city role, county or the state," Owen said. "We really need to plug in and put time and energy at the state levels."

## Award winners

**BUSINESS OF THE YEAR** — Clatsop Community Bank

**VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR** — Robin Knoll, EZ Shipping Drop Off

**2017 LEGACY AWARD** — Mark and Marci Utti, TD&M Enterprises

**COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD** — Jeremy Mills, State Farm  
**RISING STAR/NEW BUSINESS AWARD** — Andrew Stein, Logotek

**RETAIL EXCELLENCE AWARD** — Lum's Auto Center

**CHAMBER AMBASSADOR OF THE YEAR** — Beverly Renne

**LIFETIME AWARD** — Sue Pickell

**BYRON AWARD** — Nancy McCune

R.J. MARX/SEASIDE SIGNAL  
Ed Rippet, Nancy McCune, Ken Heman and Brian Owen.



## Music students take the big stage

### Seaside High School bands in concert

By R.J. Marx  
Seaside Signal

Raise the baton and start tapping your feet. Among the featured artists at the 35th annual Seaside Jazz Festival was the Seaside High School student jazz band under the direction of Terry Dahlgren.

The group is no stranger to the big stage, with competitions and live performances throughout February and continuing into March, including a concert at the high school.

For Dahlgren, the band's success is part of a long tradition of "spreading the music around."

Along with the symphonic band, the group "is in the middle of the process" of participating in and preparing for upcoming performances, including a Tuesday competition in St. Helens and a concert at the high school on Wednesday.

"A week ago we played at the district jazz festival in Astoria," Dahlgren said Sunday before taking the stage for the jazz festival. "Yesterday we had students doing solo and ensemble competitions in Tillamook."

Those included jazz band members Gage Mergel, Isaiah Collins, Hayley Rollins and Jacob Brien.

Seaside's musicians descend from a proud tradition at the high school. This year's band "shapes up great," Dahlgren said. "We're working hard. It's a process, and we're kind of in the middle of the process right now."

Repertoire includes mostly classics, Dahlgren said. "It's super important they're familiar with some of the standards," he said. "For the regular band, we program four varying styles for competition."

Money raised by the Lighthouse Jazz Society, organizers of the festival, also provided scholarship funds to musicians seeking to attend jazz camp in Washington state this summer.



Seaside High School Jazz Band performs at the Seaside Jazz Festival.



Student musicians onstage at the jazz festival.

## Pros set the pace at Seaside Jazz Festival

### Directors 'pass the torch'

By R.J. Marx  
Seaside Signal

Hundreds of jazz fans made their way to venues throughout Seaside over the weekend to hear a collection of traditional stylists from around the Northwest and beyond. The 35th annual festival, presented by the Lighthouse Jazz Society, brings a mission of passing the musical torch from one generation to another. To that end, the society's longtime directors, Ruth Johnson and Judy Shook, passed the baton to festival "director in training" Dennis Brodigan.

On Saturday afternoon at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center, Black Swan set the pace for a floor filled with dancers who pulled out well-honed skills in the fox trot, jitterbug and swing styles. Black Swan, named for a music label in the 1920s, made way for Blue Street and Uptown Lowdown in the Pacific Room, the largest of

the festival's halls. Uptown Lowdown, based in the Seattle area, offered an unusual trio of bass saxophonists. The horns, rarely seen onstage, much less in multiples, were punctuated by Art Horgen's tuba underneath.

In the Necanicum Room and River View room, bands alternated throughout the day, with Gino and the Lone Gunmen, the Dave Bennett Quartet and the local group Maggie and the Katz, based in Cannon Beach. Personnel included Maggie Kitson on vocals, Richard Thomasian on guitar, Ted Brainard on bass and Dave Gager on drums. Jazz Attitude featured Nehalem's Bob Brook on guitar, Doug Proctor on guitar, Leo Lawyer on percussion and vocalist Sydney Elliott.

Bands also played at the Elks Lodge and Best Western Ocean View Resort, with Saturday late-night performances.

The music extended through Sunday, with a gospel concert at the convention center and a performance by the Seaside High School Jazz Band.



Black Swan at the Seaside Jazz Festival.



Members of Uptown Lowdown pull out the heavy artillery: three bass saxophones, rarely seen onstage.

PHOTOS BY R.J. MARX/SEASIDE SIGNAL

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

**TIRES/WHEELS**

DEL'S O.K. TIRE FACTORY  
is changing its name to

DEL'S O.K. point S  
TIRE and AUTO SERVICE

Same great service  
YOUR #1 SOURCE FOR TIRES  
CUSTOM WHEELS • AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES

Hours: Mon-Fri 8-6 Sat 8-4  
503-325-2861 For emergencies 503-325-0233  
35359 Business Hwy 101 (miles crossing) Astoria, OR

**FLOORING**

**McMinville's**  
Manufactured Home SUPERSTORE

Where it's a HOME SHOW every day!  
20 New Homes on Display with 100's of other plans to choose from  
Come visit us today to discuss your project!

1120 OLD SHERIDAN RD, McMinville  
ACROSS FROM LOWES ON HWY 18 & 99  
503-435-2300  
jandmhomes.com

**FLOORING**

CCB# 205283

you walk on our reputation

**Carpet Corner**  
Flooring • Installation • Carpet Cleaning

3470 Hwy 101 Suite 102 • Gearhart, Oregon  
503.739.7577 • carpetcornergearhart.com

**CONSTRUCTION**

**Randall Lee's 0% FINANCING AVAILABLE**  
**Flooring America**

Window Treatments, Fabric, Designer Wallpaper, Visit Our Counter Tops, All Flooring and Miele Vacuums Outlet!  
2311 N. Roosevelt Dr., Seaside, OR 97138 • 503-738-5729  
rlflooring@yahoo.com • www.RandallLeesFlooring.com

Randall Lee's Flooring Outlet • 3579 Hwy 101 Gearhart • 503-738-6756  
Warehouse pricing • Open to the Public • Hundreds of instock rolls & remnants • In House Binding

**SECURITY**

**COASTAL ALARM**  
SYSTEMS  
503-738-9003  
LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED

Residential & Commercial: Burglary & Fire Protection, Video Surveillance, Central Station Monitoring, Remote Arm/Disarm  
LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED  
Seaside, Oregon • www.CoastalAlarm.net • info@CoastalAlarm.net  
CCB# 201010 • Reg # 977689-99

**LANDSCAPING**

**BOB McEWAN CONSTRUCTION, INC.**  
EXCAVATION • UNDERGROUND UTILITIES  
ROAD WORK • FILL MATERIAL  
SITE PREPARATION • ROCK  
OWNED AND OPERATED BY MIKE AND CELINE McEWAN  
503-738-3569  
34154 Hwy 26, Seaside, OR  
P.O. Box 2845, Gearhart, OR  
SERVING THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST SINCE 1956 • CC48302

**FLOORING**

Laurelwood Compost • Mulch • Planting MacMix Soil Amendments  
YARD DEBRIS DROP-OFF (no Scotch Broom)  
503-717-1454  
34154 HIGHWAY 26 SEASIDE, OR

**Laurelwood Farm**