



Seaside goes to

THE CATS

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

Cats and cat fanciers came to Seaside on Jan. 5 for the Emerald Cat Club show at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center.

Rows of cats in carriers welcomed guests. At the front of the room, judges examined entries for a series of categories, issuing ribbons for the winners and prizes — fish, rosettes and toys.

The show is one of a “dwindling number” of cat shows, said show manager Linda Hammer. Previous shows have

been held in Seaside in the summer; this is the Emerald Cat Club’s first winter show.

The club, affiliated with the Cat Fanciers’ Association, is based in Oregon, with members primarily from Oregon and Washington.

“These are pretty mellow cats,” Hammer said. “They’re used to going to shows. They fly.”

Kittens compete at four months to eight months; cats over eight months show as an adult.

Along with championship, premier-ship and registered kittens, entrants included household cats and registered cats competing as household pets. Altered

and unaltered cats compete in separate categories.

Cats receive a first, second, or third; best of breed; or best or second best of breed, and best of color or second best of color.

Household cats are judged based solely on beauty and condition.

Hammer, whose cats are retired, owns two Siberians and an orange champion. “My Siberian has won about everything that can be won,” she said. “It’s time to let somebody else win.”

Emerald Cat Club events are open to anyone “who loves cats.”

“We don’t discriminate,” Hammer said. “The more the merrier.”



TOP Honey Justman holds up one of her Scottish Folds after competition at the Emerald Cat Club Show in Seaside. LEFT Michelle Smith carries a competitor. RIGHT Owner cuddles a young contestant.

Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Council sets its priorities

Campus infrastructure, resiliency at top of list

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

The Seaside City Council broadened its scope and looked into the near future. At the top of the annual two- and four-year goal-setting agenda attended by City Council members and staff, housing, the new school, vacation rentals and tsunami resiliency took the stage as the city’s upcoming concerns.

The aim of the all-day meeting, held Friday, Jan. 11, at the office of Ticor Title on North Roosevelt Drive and moderated by Beau Bennett and Matthew Landkamer of the Coraggio Group, was to develop a strategy to preserve or enhance “the desirable characteristics” of Seaside.

“We’re going to look at our imperatives, and then we’re going to really jump into it, the opportunities and challenges and what factors might influence these tasks,” Landkamer said.

The council agreed to review and update vacation rental ordinances, under fire from some residents and considered a factor in the shortage of affordable and workforce housing. “The sooner the better,” Councilor Tita Montero said.

“We’re all there,” echoed councilor Dana Phillips.

High priorities

With the relocation of Seaside High School, Gearhart Elementary School and Broadway Middle School out of the tsunami zone to a new site in the Southeast Hills, the council seeks to dovetail efforts for completion by the campus opening in the fall of 2020.

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Schools go onto market

High school, middle school, Gearhart Elementary for sale

By KATHERINE LACAZE and R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

Three Seaside School District’s properties will go to the real estate market this spring, as the district plans on selecting Norris & Stevens to represent the sales of Gearhart Elementary School, Broadway Middle School and Seaside High School.

The schools will be sold, to be replaced by a new campus outside the tsunami zone.

After a request for proposals, three commercial real estate brokers, each based in Portland with a local component, responded.

Building and grounds committee members conducted interviews with each broker before selecting Norris & Stevens.

Board members Lori Lum and Mark Truax, who served on the committee, said the group rated applicants on a variety of factors, including price, references, past experience, and knowledge and understanding of the market.

Patrick Nofield said Norris & Stevens was “head and shoulders” above the other

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Celebration for downtown merchants group

Former directors, board members celebrated

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

“Twenty-five years is an amazing milestone for an organization,” said Darren Gooch, president of the Seaside Downtown Development Association’s board of directors.

Gooch and present and past members were joined by “everybody’s who’s played a part in the success of SDDA,” added Celeste Kenneally, the organization’s office and events assistant.

“I think we are off to a really good start for the new year,” Kenneally

said, pointing to the new office on Broadway. “It’s not as big as the last one (on North Holladay), but it’s big enough that people can stop by and drop stuff off.”

The association serves downtown businesses and helps increase the economic vibrancy of Seaside downtown core, Gooch said.

Past association presidents stood for recognition at the Thursday, Jan. 10, celebration at the Times Theatre on Broadway in Seaside.

Karen Emmerling of Beach Books, Peter Ter Har of Ter Har’s; Wayne Poole, Randy Frank, formerly of Norma’s; Greg Boat of Del Sol; and Julie Jesse were among the



Jeff Ter Har/For Seaside Signal

Seaside Downtown Development Association board president Darren Gooch, association administrator Celeste Kenneally and Keith Chandler, general manager of the Seaside Aquarium, at the organization’s 25th anniversary.

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