



Three council seats up for November election

Morrisey will not seek reelection

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

Three City Council seats are up for reelection in Seaside in November, with incumbents Randy Frank and Tom Horning running unopposed.

City Councilor Seth Morrisey announced at Monday's City Council meeting he will not run again for the

Ward 4 seat.

Morrisey was elected in 2014, winning a two-year term after the retirement of Stubby Lyons. He was reelected in 2016.

"I would like to announce that I will not be seeking another term as city councilor," Morrisey said in a statement at the meeting. "It's been both an honor and a privilege to represent the city of Seaside as a councilor the last five years. I've enjoyed my time as a public servant, and this was a very difficult decision to make, but in the end, with a growing family, and professional commitments, at this time I cannot commit to another four-year term."

Morrisey will continue to volunteer for the city, he said, "and will always leave the door open to future elected positions if the

See Seaside, Page A6

Cockrum lone candidate for Gearhart mayor

Competitive council races

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

With Tuesday's filing deadline passed, November's ballot shows an uncontested mayoral race in Gearhart and a competitive race for City Council Position 2.

City Councilor Paulina Cockrum is the sole mayoral candidate after Mayor Matt

Brown decided not to seek reelection.

Brown, a PGA golf professional, threw his support to Cockrum after his decision to step down to focus on his golf businesses.

"Paulina has years of experience serving on the Planning Commission and on the City Council," Brown said in announcing his decision not to seek reelection earlier this month. "It's been incredible to have her as our council president these last few years

where she continues to work diligently to preserve what makes Gearhart so special."

Cockrum has played a key role in making fiscal decisions that have led to a budget surplus and a strong financial position for the city over the last four years, Brown said. She has also led on important issues such as vacation rental regulations, affordable housing, environmental issues and emergency management.

See Gearhart, Page A6



Seaside firefighters Genesee Dennis and Katie Bulletset as they prepare to head to California.

R.J. Marx



Norris & Stevens

Aerial view, Broadway Middle School. Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District is located at top right-center.

Park district eyes purchase of Broadway Middle School

Space shortage could lead to program cuts

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

The Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District will seek public input on a potential purchase of Broadway Middle School.

A community survey will be available for response from Aug. 31 to Sept. 14. Community presentations are scheduled for Sept. 8 and Sept. 9, and

virtual online tours or in small groups in-person for mid-September.

"It's been a little bit difficult for staff to know what angle to pursue, or if it was worth pursuit," Skyler Archibald, executive director of the park district, said at last Tuesday's board meeting. "What is important for staff is knowing the board is interested in the property and support exploration of it. I think it's in the best interests of the district to move at a swift pace to gather this feedback, assess it and take the next steps

See Broadway, Page A6

Park District adds two board members

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

Two new board members took the oath of office at the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District's Aug. 18 meeting.

Celeste Bodner and Erika Marshall, who participated remotely, joined board members Katharine Parker, Mike Hinton and Su Coddington to fill the board after the July resignations of former board president Jeremy Mills and board member

John Chapman. Bodner assumes Position 2 and Marshall Position 4. Both terms will expire next year.

Bodner is the founder and executive director of the Seaside-based FosterClub. The mission of FosterClub, a national nonprofit, is to improve the lives of young people in and from foster care.

Bodner, married with four "mostly grown" children, is a former volunteer on the park and recreation

See Board, Page A6

MUTUAL AID

On the California fireline, a close call for Seaside firefighters

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

Firefighters from Seaside in the thick of California wildfires survived a close call Saturday morning when a tree hit their brush truck while patrolling the fireline.

The truck was in motion and all three crew members were inside, Fire Chief Joey Daniels said.

The truck's light bar "probably saved us from injury and prevented the tree from going through the cab roof," Seaside firefighter Katie Bulletset said.

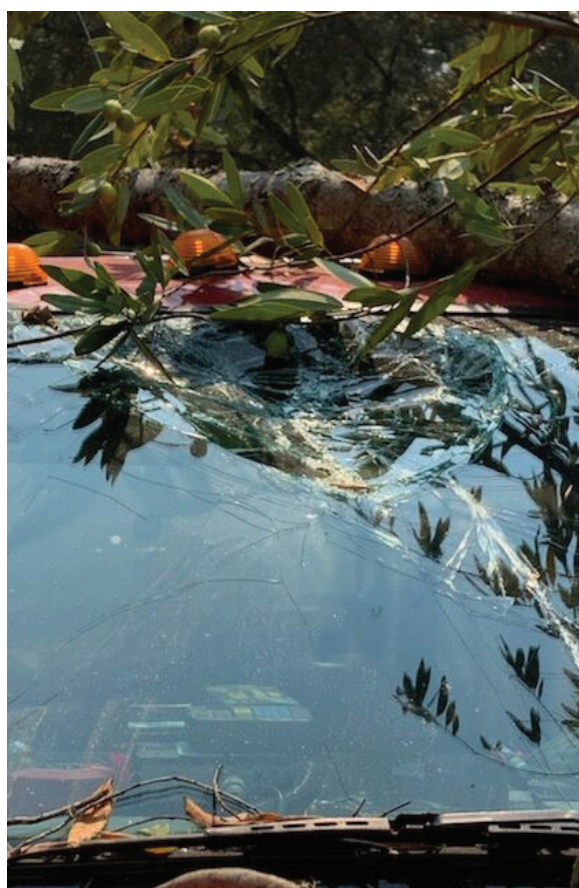
The brush truck is out of service and under damage assessment, but the Seaside crew continues to work with the rest of the 17 member Clatsop County Task Force to assist with firefighting efforts on a fire near Sonoma Lake, northwest of Santa Rosa.

Cal Fire asked to have another vehicle sent down from Clatsop County, City Manager Mark Winstanley said.

"Two other firefighters drove that vehicle down to California overnight then turned around and came back," he said. "Because they're not currently assigned to the fire, they drove down a vehicle so that vehicle could be replaced.

"Not only do we have firemen that are down there, but we have firemen who are willing to drive all the way to California and back just to make sure they have the right equipment."

The task force includes firefighters from engine companies in Seaside, Warrenton, Lewis and Clark, Astoria and Knappa who left from Seaside on Aug. 19.



Seaside Fire Department

Seaside firefighters experienced a close call when trees fell on their brush truck.

Schools 'ready to pivot at any point' amid virus

By KATHERINE LACAZE
Seaside Signal

As families in the Seaside School District prepare to go back to school in a couple weeks, they can expect a continuation of remote

learning with the possibility of a gradual reopening in late October if certain community and state metrics are met for the coronavirus.

"We're trying to be really flexible, and you just have to have multiple plans and be ready to pivot at any point," Juli Wozniak, the principal of Pacific Ridge Elementary School, said. "It's impossible to predict where we'll be

in six weeks, but we have an idea, so we have a plan for that."

Seaside Middle School, Seaside High School and Pacific Ridge are offering two options for delivering instruction as they begin the school year Sept. 14 amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

The first is comprehensive distance learning, where students will be

assigned set schedules and participate in synchronous learning — online instruction time or classes in sync with specific teachers.

The other option, Online Thrive, is an independent-learning model that can be tailored to individual families and their needs.

At the middle and high school levels, distance learning students will sign

up for five and four classes, and will have a bell schedule similar to what they're used to.

Pacific Ridge students enrolled in distance learning will be assigned to a classroom and provided with a daily schedule of online live-learning opportunities with their teacher and classmates through Zoom. They will also have

a schedule of daily activities they do on their own time, with all assignments and videos being posted on the school's new learning platform, Seesaw.

At Cannon Beach Academy, students are all using the same curriculum to start with, as opposed to choosing between two different

See School, Page A8

