



Lyn and JR D'Amelio in front of their Highlands home.

Photos by R.J. Marx

## HALLOWEEN HOUSE IN THE RESERVE

### Bloody eyeballs, skeletons and a witches' brew

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside signal

Halloween spirit accompanied the D'Amelios when they moved from the San Jose, California, area to a home in the Reserve in Gearhart. The lawn of Lyn and Jr. D'Amelio is filled with a collection of goblins, skeletons and witches, with a projection screen showing haunted scenes and scary surprises.

One of the most unusual items is a 200-pound cauldron, originally used for cooking until it became cracked. The owner of the cauldron passed it on to the D'Amelios, who didn't mind the cracks, which gave it a spooky character. Same with an old trunk slated for the dump. Salvaged from a local church, the chest now contains a treasure trove of pirate's booty, protected by a trio of skeleton pirates. Icky spiders dangle over the bushes.

Creepy eyeballs were created after the couple salvaged discarded street lamps that didn't match fit the fixtures. The D'Amelios painted the bulbs and placed them at strategic positions on the lawn.

To keep electricity flowing to the installation, Jr. D'Amelio designed a protective outlet cover to withstand rain and moisture. The D'Amelios derived inspiration from HGTV and do-it-yourself shows. They've expanded to Christmastime and will be lighting up for the holidays.

The D'Amelios are both retired from careers from San Jose, and live in the Reserve with their daughter, Jillian, who works at Safeway.

The show takes place every night before Halloween from about 7 to 9:30 p.m. at 4957 Drummond Drive.



Pirate's booty, goblins and gravestones are part of the fun at the D'Amelio home in Gearhart.

## Gearhart curtails Sunday contractor work hours

### Challenge could be ahead

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside Signal

Commercial contractors must refrain from work in Gearhart on Sundays. A new ordinance aims to provide residents a day of rest from a city with a growth spurt.

Measure proponents Bebe Michel and Eric Halperin said they recognized that houses need to be built and repaired and gardens need to be maintained. "We understand construction companies and landscaping companies have a job to do and need to be able to make a living," they wrote. "But companies should also understand the needs of the people in the community. We think it's important and fair that residents have one day a week of peace and quiet in their homes."

The passage comes over objections of contractors who have said the ban would cripple operations and hurts their ability to serve customers.

In an August public hearing, Tim Mancill, of Mancill Lawn and Landscaping, said sentiment was overwhelmingly against the ordinance. "That should tell the council what the majority of people want. I think if it was on the ballot banning Sundays the ordinance would be voted down in a landslide."

See Work hours, Page A6

## The future of former Gearhart school awaits

### Water testing underway at former elementary school, caretaker application to return

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside Signal

Changes to the former Gearhart Elementary School have spruced up the exterior of the old building, along with paving and landscaping. "Everything was everything to make it look better," owner Robert Morey of Scofi Gearhart LLC said.

"It was purely a matter of the whole thing where we started off with the first thing is, I want you to come into town, you look at something clean," he said. "And I'm really happy I did that."

Providing a scenic entrance to the city with their reminted Gearhart Recreation Center has been a constant goal of Morey and his wife Timi.

But future uses are still uncertain, and will largely depend on results from 13 test wells in the property.

See School, Page A3

## Winter looms as Seaside officials finish homeless workshops, meetings

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside Signal

With colder, wet weather, the urgency of shelter for Seaside's homeless population grows greater. So does the potential frustration as two city advisory groups

wind up meetings and prepare to take action.

Efforts directed toward solving the problem of homelessness tend to fall off track or get diverted, homelessness think tank member Nelle Moffett said.

People may not have a focused attention on solutions, become overwhelmed

See Homeless, Page A3

## Grim scenarios heighten tsunami urgency

### Geologist urges for preparedness

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside Signal

Communications will be gone. Electricity will be down. Sewers and running water will be gone. And nearly two-thirds of Seaside's population could be a victim of the next Cascadia Subduction Zone and tsunamis, predicted by scientists to be imminent



R.J. Marx

Geologist Tom Horning of Horning Geosciences at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center.

within decades. The Seaside Community Emergency Response Team presentation by geol-

ogist Tom Horning, "Preparing for Tsunamis: How Soon, How Big?" last Tuesday in the Seaside Civic and Convention Center brought hundreds of residents to hear the stark realities of living in one of the world's perilous natural environments.

Horning is a geologist and consultant based in Seaside at Horning Geosciences. He is also a long-time board member of North Coast Land Con-

See Tsunami, Page A6

