



## FESTIVE FALL

PUMPKIN SPLASH, PET PARADE AND TRUNK OR TREAT DRAW CROWDS • SEE STORY AND MORE PHOTOS ON A4



R.J. Marx

The 1,300-pound pumpkin ready to drop.



R.J. Marx

All cameras on the pumpkin.



Jeff TerHar

This little guys went flying when the pumpkin dropped.



R.J. Marx

LEFT: Boomer Barbosa, the voice of 94.9 FM, acted as emcee. RIGHT: Water, ducks and beavers fly as the pumpkin hits the pool.



LEFT: Pumpkin after landing in the pool. RIGHT: Keith Chandler measures the distance of the ducks and beavers after the pumpkin drop.



Photos by Jeff TerHar

## Hotelier buys historic Gilbert Block Building

Khan is planning a second floor hotel

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside Signal

Hotelier Masudur Khan has purchased the Gilbert Block Building downtown and plans to renovate its second floor into a hotel.

The two-story building, on a little more than three-quarters of an acre, sold to Seaside LLC in October for \$3.1 million. The sale includes the 38,000-square-foot building, including riverfront property, and a parking lot on the east side of North Holladay Drive.

The ground floor will continue to be rented as stores.

Khan helms Seaside Lodging and owns and manages hotels and restaurants in the Pacific Northwest, including the Inn at Seaside, the River Inn, the Coast River Inn and the 65-room Saltline Hotel. His wife operates the Gilbert Inn and the Inn at Haystack Rock. Khan is the past chairman for the Oregon Restaurant and Lodging Association.

"I'm happy to get the building in my portfolio," Khan said. "I think it has huge potential."

Other investors in the building include engineer Mark Mead, hotel builder Ryan Keck, of Pine Ridge Global, and Rhanman Tahmidur, of Gilbert Hospitality LLC.

In the first year, Khan plans to make needed utility and roof repairs and develop a more uniform, symmetrical design style.

"Our goal is to fulfill the building's historical value to create an experience for the city, to bring customers and to enjoy the building," Khan said. "We will keep the vibe — there's no question about it."

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## Employees comply with park district's vaccine policy

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside Signal

Ninety percent of the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District's 57 employees have received COVID-19 vaccines, and the rest are complying with the park district's policy, which provides exemptions for religious or medical reasons. Employees who don't comply will be placed on unpaid leave and subject to termination.

No park district employees have left as a result of the vaccine policy, Skyler Archibald, the park district's executive director, said after last Tuesday's board of directors meeting. "We have experienced normal turnover but no departing employees have indicated that it was due to the vaccine policy," he said.

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## Burly and the Bean introduces 'roast your own'

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside Signal

For a coffee connoisseur, the raw, unroasted bean are where it all begins.

Justin and Vanessa Boone, owners of Burly and the Bean in Seaside, know that. They're opening up a "roast your own" shop on Avenue S, in the former site of Mimi's Flowers.

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R.J. Marx

Justin Boone, owner of Burly and the Bean, at his new coffee roasting establishment.

## Hood to Coast polishes message

Approaching the last year of a contract with Seaside

By R.J. MARX  
Seaside Signal

City Manager Mark Winstanley was at a country inn in Tuscany when he met a family from Oregon who had run Hood to Coast.

"Even when you're on vacation, you can run into people who have been to the same event you have been to two weeks ago. It's really pretty amazing, the impact that Hood to Coast has around the world,"

he said of his encounter in Italy. "We're pretty lucky to have it here."

City Councilor Tita Montero said she had a similar experience while traveling in London.

Closer to home, though, the annual relay has a bit of an image problem. Several residents took to social media after the event returned from a pandemic hiatus in August to complain about rude runners and a lack of virus protocols.

At a City Council meeting last Monday, Dan Floyd, Hood to Coast's chief operating officer, presented a check for almost \$29,000 to the city from the



Dan Floyd

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