



Rachael Wolford collected numerous antique ornaments that are part of the Christmas tree decorations at the Butterfield Cottage.

Cherished Christmas ornaments sparkle at Butterfield Cottage

By KATHERINE LACAZE
For Seaside Signal

Seaside resident Rachael Wolford has fond memories of Christmastime during her youth, when her family lived with her grandmother in a three-story Victorian home in Portland during World War II.

They would cut down a giant tree and set it up in an alcove with large windows on three sides. She recalls her grandmother resting in a chair while the rest of the family gathered around to hang up lights and baubles.

In the following days, Wolford would sneak into the room at night, turn on the Christmas lights, and then sit at the foot of the tree to watch them glow for hours. On the 12th night of Christmas — also her grandma's birthday — they would have a big celebration, taking down the ornaments, chopping up the tree, and burning the logs in the fireplace while they ate cake and ice cream.

Even after her family returned to England at the close of the war, Wolford had spent nine years practicing these beloved traditions with her family.

"By that time, it was really instilled in me what Christmas was," she said. "It kind of splashed over into the rest of my life."

Even now, she'll leave on her Christmas tree lights throughout the day and night, "and I still sit there and look at it," she said. Another way she's worked to keep her memories alive is by collecting ornaments reminiscent of those used at grandmother's home, which itself was full of antiques.



Photos by Katherine Lacaze

ABOVE: Rachael Wolford, left, donated several antique ornaments to the Seaside Museum & Historical Society that Butterfield Cottage curator Robin Montero used to decorate the Christmas tree at the cottage. **RIGHT:** Patrons can see Wolford's treasured ornaments on the Christmas tree at the Seaside Museum & Historical Society's Butterfield Cottage. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

"I kind of fell in love with them when I was a child," she said.

When Wolford and her mother were cleaning out the Portland home and preparing it to be sold, they couldn't find the trunk with all the tree ornaments. They only recovered a few, which were split between them.

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Local veteran remains missing

Search and rescue phase comes to an end for now

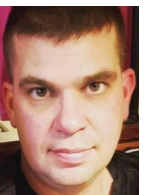
By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

Evan Goin, a veteran with four overseas tours, was reported missing from his U.S. Highway 26 home last week.

Searchers and canine crews have been unsuccessful in their search, Sgt. Bruce Scott of the Clatsop County Sheriff's Office said Monday.

"We have called off the search as far as the search and rescue aspect of it for now," Scott said.

Goin is a supply specialist and liaison officer with the Oregon National Guard at Camp Rilea.



Evan Goin

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A rattled community after school threats

District seeks to reassure families

By KATHERINE LACAZE
For Seaside Signal

Three recent potential school threats have stirred concern among parents and the Seaside School District community.

Jeff Roberts, the high school principal, addressed the potential threats of violence faced by Seaside schools over the past few weeks.

Roberts emphasized the importance of parents and guardians being educated, involved and vigilant.

"From a programming standpoint, I think we need to do some more education around this," Roberts said during a school board meeting Dec. 14. "But that education isn't effective unless we are partners with families that are taking a vested interest in what is going on in the handheld devices ... of their students."

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Park district concerned about pot shop location

Director claims retailer too close to rec center

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

The Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District wants the city to block a cannabis shop seeking to move into property near the Sunset Recreation Center, but it is unlikely the city will take action.

The property on N. Roosevelt Drive is less than 500 feet from the northwest corner of the recreation center, which was formerly Broadway Middle School. State law generally prohibits marijuana retailers within 1,000 feet of schools, but the recreation center does not meet the definition of a school.

The recreation center houses the catalog of the park district's youth programs, including the preschool, after-school programs and summer camps.

See Pot shop, Page A6

Seaside looks to Coos Bay for camping ordinance

Aims to address homelessness

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

Seaside's camping ordinance left more questions than answers last Monday night as the City Council sought to update city ordinances to meet state and federal requirements.

Seaside's ordinances, like others throughout the state, have been struck down by the courts at this point, City Manager Mark Winstanley said.

The purpose of the ordinance is to protect the safety



Campers and their belongings at the public restroom next to the Seaside Visitors Bureau.

of citizens and regulate use of publicly owned property by establishing time, manner, and place guidelines for trailers, tents, campers and RVs. The ordinance recognizes

the federal court ruling, *Martin v. Boise*, as well as newly adopted Oregon laws that make it legal to camp overnight on publicly owned property which is open to the

public between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. The law has been in effect in Coos Bay since August.

"This is patterned off of an ordinance that was developed down in Coos Bay," Winstanley said. "What will be the legal criteria of the courts at this point? This is one that, at least up until this point, has been able to stay on the books."

The Coos Bay ordinance makes it legal to camp — including under tents, tarps, sleeping bags and temporary huts — on most publicly owned property within the city limits between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m.

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