



Seaside Fire and Rescue

Responders pulled 16 swimmers from the water over the weekend.

RIDGELINE TRAIL

Plan aims to enhance outdoor recreation by campus

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

Retired teacher John Meyer asked the Seaside School District board of directors to look in their own backyard for educational resources for high school and middle school students. Meyer proposed opening trails above the school campus on Spruce Drive for athletes, students and community members.

The Ridgeline Trail, just under a mile, would begin at the northeast corner of the track field and follow a slight grade up the small hill to the gravel road, Meyer said in his proposal, delivered at the Aug. 16 board meeting.

“It’s using what we have to impact the most people and good and the idea with a trail around our high school and middle school,” Meyer said. “We’re looking at a kind of a blank canvas of raw dirt.”

See Trail, Page A3

OCEAN PERIL

Beachgoer dies in Seaside rip tide

Multiple incidents in Seaside, Cannon Beach

Seaside Signal

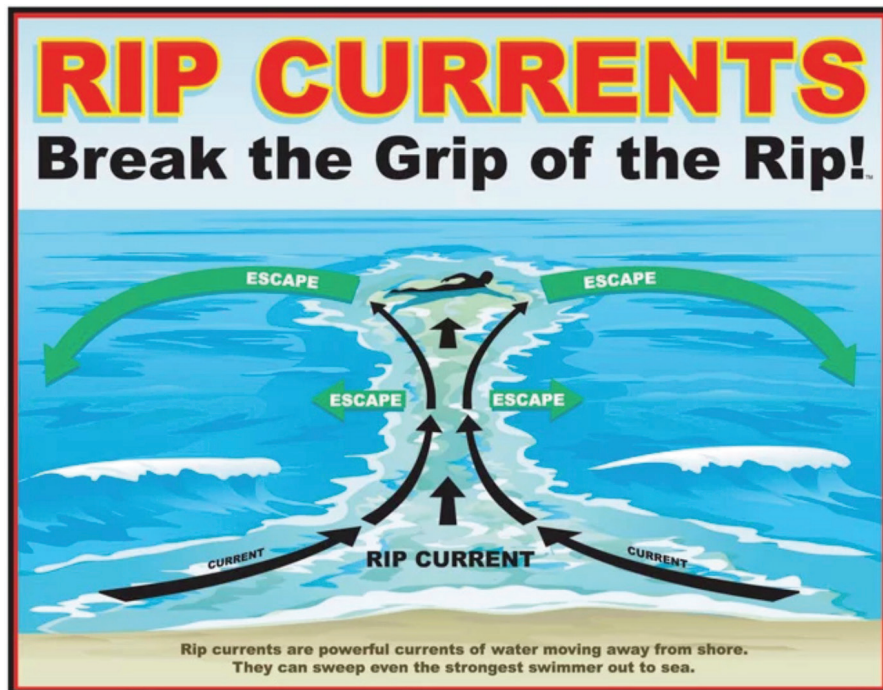
Seaside saw a weekend of water rescues as riptides swept the coast, with calls for rescue along the beaches.

Sixteen people were pulled from the water over the weekend, according to Seaside Fire Chief Joey Daniels.

A beachgoer died on Saturday, after being pulled into a rip tide in the area off Sixth Avenue.

Just after 2:30 p.m., Seaside Fire and Rescue responded to a water rescue in progress on the beach out from Sixth Avenue. When rescue units arrived, three Seaside lifeguards were in the water in an active rip current with two victims and bystanders trying to provide assistance.

See Riptide, Page A2



Seaside Fire advises to not fight the current, but to swim out of the current and onto the shore.



Seaside Fire and Rescue

Seaside Fire and Rescue responders at the scene. One person died and another was rescued in the incident.

Morrissey announces City Council candidacy

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

Seth Morrissey is running for City Council after he stepped down in 2020.

So far, he will be running for the at-large Ward 3 and Ward 4 seat, held by Dana Phillips.

After speaking with Phillips and confirming she was not seeking reelection for the council position, he submitted his paperwork, Morrissey said.



Seth Morrissey

A Seaside High School graduate, Morrissey, 40, studied business at Lane Community College and then at Portland State University. He is co-founder and president of Morrissey Productions and Oregon Web

See Morrissey, Page A3

School district softball search narrowed to Broadway Field

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

The Seaside School District will pursue a softball field at Broadway Field. Superintendent Susan Penrod plans to address the Seaside City Council at their Sept. 12 meeting.

Originally one of three sites considered, both the Wahanna Field site and the “North 40” site near the old high school have been eliminated from consideration. Wahanna Field soils are inadequate, project manager

Brian Hardebeck said, and the city intends the North 40 site for other uses, possibly housing. The cost to develop the North 40 site would be about \$1 million more than Broadway Field.

Both Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District and the city of Seaside expressed a strong desire for the Broadway Field site, Hardebeck said.

Benefits include ample parking and an existing intergovernmental agreement between the parties for funding, management and maintenance, he said. “There are field amenities

See Softball, Page A5

Gearhart City Council mulls land swap

Decision comes after failed May vote

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

In May, Gearhart voters rejected a \$14.5 million bond measure for a new firehouse, a stinging message to city leaders who had argued that the project was critical to replace the aging fire station on Pacific Way.

The proposal was defeated by a two-thirds vote.

But the city may still pursue a land swap plan to bring land originally intended for the station into the city’s urban growth boundary.

“I thought it was a



City Councilor Austin Tomlinson, Planning Commissioner Russ Taggard and City Administrator Chad Sweet at a tour of the Cottages at Gearhart site.

great-looking property myself,” Mayor Keny Smith said at a council work session Aug. 18. “I don’t see a downside. A nice park adjacent to the butterfly habitat is a great

thing. And the upper lot, the one that was at one time going to be for the fire station — I think that’s a great location for a lot of things the city could do.”

No property rights would be changed and no land would be given up, City Attorney Peter Watts said.

“The developers will be able to develop it in R-1 residential designation and we would receive approximately 5 acres, approximately half for a public park and then the other half could be used for a public purpose,” he said.

While there are no new plans for a fire or police station at the site, councilors weighed options in pursuing the land swap with developers. “This is vacant land up here until you have another opportunity,” City Administrator Chad Sweet said.

See Highlands, Page A3

