



A Feast of Colors, Styles Awaits at Toujours

Customers of Toujours clothing boutique keep coming back, according to owner Kathy Cleary. “We do our best to provide people with something they’re not going to see at the department stores,” Cleary said. She and her manager, Christine Gallagher-Niles, attend fashion markets to hand-pick outfits for the Nye Beach and Salishan shops. New pieces arrive at Toujours every day. Cleary characterizes her taste as leaning toward natural fibers, soft fabrics and feminine styling without being frilly, frou-frou or too trendy, keeping the focus more on the long-term wardrobe. The boutique at 704 NW Beach Drive, Nye Beach, Newport, opened in June 1996. Cleary added a second Toujours at the Shops at Salishan, 7755 N. Highway 101, in September 2001. Both stores carry similar inventory, but often in different colors. Cleary



worked in her sister’s Florence boutique, Bonjour, for five years before opening the Nye Beach shop. Toujours’ displays are divided by color groups. “Women are often drawn to the colors they wear,” Cleary said. Turquoise and brown are a hot combination for fall, winter and spring this year, she added. Lighter, softer versions of fall’s palette will be popular for spring. The clothing ranges from casual beachwear to wedding outfits, with plenty of business attire added to the mix. Cleary keeps Toujours stocked with jewelry, footwear, hats and other eye-catching accessories, leaning toward the more artsy pieces. Cleary carries work by local jewelry makers Cheri Aldrich, Esther Lee and Sondra Gayle. *Toujours Boutique: Shops at Salishan, Gleneden Beach (541) 764-5254; Historic Nye Beach, Newport (541) 574-6404. ■ LS*



Wrap Your Mind Around a Good Book

As the winter storms roll across the coast the rainy season chases us indoors to let our minds tumble between the pages of a good book. With lots of coffee shops nearby, it’s easy to pack and carry your latte and sink into a comfy chair at Beach Books and enjoy the quiet escape from the rain. Beach Books in Seaside offers a cozy retreat for the storm-bound with a great selection of best selling fiction, cookbooks, home improvement and more. Owner Karen Emmerling opened Beach Books in November 2005 with the desire to create a homey and inviting “beachy” feel to her shop. The warm tones of blonde wood-trimmed shelves, soft mint green walls and a comfortable seating area invites patrons to take their time browsing through the store’s selection. Locals and visitors alike will find something to bring home. A cheerful kid’s area has a great array of children’s books including teaching aids and the Homework Helpers series. A child-sized table and chair makes even the littlest reader feel welcomed. Customers will have even more to look forward to in the coming months. Emmerling is planning to add magazines, an expanded selection of book-related gifts and host guest authors for book signings. Beach Books, 37 N. Edgewood, Seaside (503) 738-3500. ■ CM