

City Council supports parklets

Voluntary water conservation also backed

By **DERRICK DePLEGGE**
The Daily Astorian

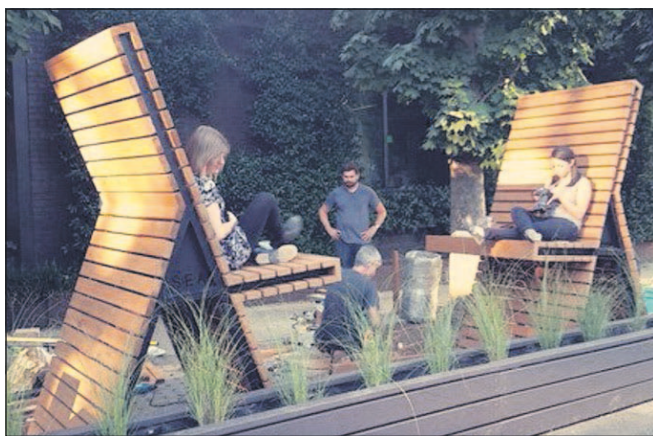
Astoria could get two parklets downtown.

A pilot project will give businesses two years to experiment with an urban design tool that has sprouted in Portland and other cities.

The parklets — or sidewalk extensions — would cover about the size of a parking space. The mini-parks would be allowed on side streets downtown, not on major thoroughfares such as Marine Drive and Commercial, Exchange and Duane streets.

The City Council, which approved the pilot project Monday night, would have to sign off on the two parklet demonstrations.

The Astoria Downtown



City of Portland

A parklet in Portland.

Historic District Association brought the idea to the city as a potential way to spice up downtown.

The parklets, while sponsored by businesses, will be considered public spaces, so will be open to the public 24 hours a day.

In other business Monday night, the City Council:

- Unanimously approved vol-

untary water conservation recommendations for consumers.

While the city's water storage volume is 95 percent of average for this time of the year, Ken Cook, the director of the Public Works Department, said weather forecasters have predicted there will not be substantial rainfall until the end of October.

If that prediction holds,

Cook warned, the city might have to impose mandatory water restrictions.

The city's voluntary recommendations include checking faucets and pipes for leaks, not using toilets as ashtrays or wastebaskets, installing water-saving shower heads, using dishwashers and washing machines only with full loads, and not watering lawns.

• Recognized Tuesday as the 225th anniversary of the U.S. Coast Guard.

• Proclaimed Saturday Willis Van Dusen Day in honor of the city's longest-serving mayor.

Van Dusen, who served as mayor for 24 years before retiring from public office last year, is the grand marshal of the Astoria Regatta's Grand Land Parade Saturday afternoon.

Van Dusen, the president of Van Dusen Beverages, is expected to be presented with a cake after the parade.



Erick Bengel/The Daily Astorian

City crews load a barrel into an emergency supply shed in 2013. The barrels contain personal supplies for residents, second homeowners and employees in Cannon Beach.

Cannon Beach's emergency barrels won't be rolling away

Weapons fears drive emergency container debate

By **DANI PALMER**
EO Media Group

CANNON BEACH — The city of Cannon Beach will continue its emergency cache container program, but is exploring changes after concerns regarding safety arose.

Residents spoke against discontinuing the program during a City Council meeting in July. City Manager Brant Kucera said despite concerns, the program would not be phased out in Cannon Beach.

"Obviously it's an important program," he said during an emergency preparedness meeting Friday morning. "So there's no intention of eliminating the program."

But, he added, there is "valid concern" for what is placed inside the containers, intended for use in an emergency such as the Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake and tsunami.

Cannon Beach started the program three years ago and has expanded to three locations above the tsunami inundation zone at the east end of Elk Creek Road, on the South Wind site in Tolovana and on Old Cannon Beach Road.

Police learned some of the barrels contain guns, alcohol and cash after break-ins at two of the sites last summer, when one of those firearms was reported missing.

Cannon Beach Police Chief Jason Schermerhorn said in an emergency, conflicts could erupt over items contained in the barrels.

Liability concerns

Emergency Preparedness Committee Chair Karolyn Adamson pointed out that many residents carry guns in their go-bags, which are often filled with supplies such as food and water to last at least

24 hours during a natural disaster.

But there's a matter of liability with the items sitting on city-owned property.

Committee member Paula Vetter suggested forming a legal agreement prohibiting residents from placing certain items in the containers.

Mayor Sam Steidel said there are restrictions, but that a written agreement got "watered down at some point in time."

Vetter also mentioned having someone monitor the loading of barrels and requesting an inventory list.

Kucera said an inspection would be plausible since the containers are located on city property.

There are currently about 100 personal barrels loaded with supplies, Steidel noted. They come in three sizes — 5-gallon plastic buckets, 30-gallon plastic barrels and 55-gallon metal barrels, ranging from \$5 to \$55 — and are placed in shipping containers.

While Cannon Beach plans to continue the program with alterations, it wants to assist all residents in an emergency.

Go-bags

The city encourages the go-bags for short-term survival, but Steidel said staff need to work on helping "people stay alive" for longer than a few days after a major disaster.

There have been discussions about providing a cache for all residents, not just those who opt to purchase barrels.

What supplies to put in such a cache is the question. There is a food bank in town, though it's located at the former elementary school in the tsunami hazard zone, and Cannon Beach Community Church that stores items for those in need.

Balancing valuable objects such as food, water, tents and more for the city's 1,600 residents, second-home owners and many visitors in case of an emergency is a "yin-yang budget problem," Steidel said.



Nancy McCarthy/The Daily Astorian

Although two emergency supply sheds on the north and south ends of Cannon Beach were broken into, the supply barrels in the shipping containers on Elk Creek Road weren't touched. Residents keep emergency clothing, food and other materials in individual barrels in case of a tsunami or other natural disaster.

Dance event to support family in distress

Campuzanos receive support from Seaside, Cannon Beach communities

By **KATHERINE LACAZE**
EO Media Group

SEASIDE — After a devastating loss, a Seaside family found an outpouring of love and support from their communities. An event Friday at Seaside High School will continue to demonstrate that community support as Zumba instructors from Knappa to Nehalem will host a Zumba dance party fundraiser to benefit the Campuzano family.

During a January trip to visit family in Mexico, the Campuzanos were staying overnight in a hotel in California when their 2003 Chevrolet Tahoe and an accompanying trailer filled with personal items were stolen. Overall, the stolen items were estimated at \$30,000.

Since then, the communities in both Seaside and Cannon Beach have responded with support and care, said Carmen Campuzano, who lives in Seaside and works at Sleepy Monk Coffee Roasters and the Lumberyard Rotisserie & Grill in Cannon Beach.

"I got a lot of love from everyone, and it makes my heart so happy," Campuzano said.

Family fund

A Cannon Beach couple, Rex and Diane Amos, created the Campuzano Family Fund, and donations can be made at any Columbia Bank branch on the coast from Astoria to Tillamook.

The Zumba fundraising dance will be held from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Friday at Seaside High School. The event will begin with a 30-minute kids dance party. A Zumba party for anyone 12 and older will follow at 7 p.m.

Zumba is an international dance-fitness program instructor Erin Hofseth described in a news release as "a fun, individualized, effective form of exercise and self-expression."

Admission to the benefit is a suggested donation to go to the Campuzano Family Fund. Tickets can be purchased in advance from Zumba instructors in the area, at Pacific Crest Cottage in Gearhart or at the door the night of the fundraiser. One ticket includes admission to both events.

The North Coast Zumba Network's goal "is to offer a compassionate community



Submitted Photo

The North Coast Zumba Network is hosting a Zumba Dance Party fundraiser Friday to benefit Carmen and Victor Campuzano (front row) and their family, who experienced a significant theft earlier this year.

a way to respond creatively and generously to the unfortunate events experienced by fellow community members," Hofseth wrote.

Community steps up

Carmen Campuzano was on her way to Mexico in January with her husband, Victor; her mother, Lorenza Villa; her brother, Hector Tobar; Carmen and Victor's son, Julio Campuzano; their daughters Paola, Judith and Marycarmen Campuzano; Judith's husband, Abel Sosa; and Marycarmen's 4-year-old son, Alan Martinez.

The theft, which occurred overnight in Delano, Calif., was captured on the hotel's security camera footage. Police recovered the Tahoe, found abandoned on the highway a few days later, and a plasma display TV, but approximately \$30,000 of items — including two mattresses, an exercise bicycle, three laptops, one dryer, two washing machines, two microwaves, an iPad, a clarinet, school books, Victor's custom-made carpentry tools and boxes of clothing — were not found. The family also lost about \$4,000 in uncounted tips earned by Victor. Many of the items were gifts the Campuzanos collected to take to their family in Patzcuaro.

So far, Carmen and Victor's insurance company has not responded as to whether they will cover all or part of the loss, and Carmen said she does not feel they are close to an answer. The latest word from the Delano Police Department is the case is closed, but it is unclear whether a suspect was apprehended, Carmen said. Fortunately, relief has come to the Campuzanos through help from family, friends and colleagues.

"I feel like Seaside and Cannon Beach, where I've been for more than 20 years, they really have lots of love in their hearts, and I thank God for that," Carmen said. The community's response to the event has shown her, she said, "how not all people are bad."

From a family dentist who dropped about \$1,500 in charges Julio was incrementally paying off, to a local lawyer who offered his assistance if needed, numerous people are looking out for the whole family, Carmen said. "It makes me feel so calm and so good to have people taking care of me," she added. "I've been so blessed from everywhere."

Because some of the stolen items had sentimental value, they are irreplaceable, but Carmen said they are thanking God they were physically unharmed.



Submitted Photo

Rex Amos with Victor Campuzano. Amos presented Campuzano this low-mileage car on behalf of Dustin Fulwiler. The car had belonged to Cannon Beach's Kandi Fulwiler, who died last year.

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Zumba event

Gearhart resident Joy Sigler got the idea for the Zumba event after learn-

ing about the family's loss through an article published in the Seaside Signal in May.

"I thought this would be a great time to give them a community hug," she said. She wanted to show support and sympathy and "try to make lemonade out of lemons."

Because Zumba has a high number of Hispanic participants, she said, she thought it would be an appropriate event to celebrate the Campuzanos' culture.

She started organizing the fundraiser, and other Zumba instructors joined to form the North Coast Zumba Network to help advertise and host it. This is the first time the network is collectively putting on an event.

The dance seems fitting, Carmen said, because "when bad things happen, you're supposed to have a good attitude and keep going."

"I want to be there and it will be fun and nice to see everyone and feel the power and energy from everyone there," she said.

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