

A 'storm' of new stories is brewing in republished book

Author Peter Lindsey will relaunch his Cannon Beach history June 22

By **NANCY McCARTHY**
FOR COAST WEEKEND

Back by popular demand, the storm is comin' over the rock.

The "storm" of new stories and historical photos of Cannon Beach will be released this month in the newly revised book, "Comin' in Over the Rock: a Storyteller's History of Cannon Beach," written by folklorist and former English teacher Peter Lindsey of Cannon Beach.

Lindsey's book first was published in 2004 and went out of print in 2008. Last November, the community collected \$8,000 to revise and republish the book containing quintessential stories about the characters of Cannon Beach.

"I'm excited about it," said Lindsey. "It's kind of exciting."

The new book will be launched during a gathering at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 22, in the Cannon Beach Book Co. Those who contributed \$100 or more will receive a signed copy of the book.

"I'll scrawl anything they might choose," Lindsey said.

The project to republish the book began with a discussion of locals attending a wedding two years ago. Although Rainmar Bartl, retired city planner for Cannon Beach, hadn't attended the wedding, he heard about the idea and pursued it. He learned that Portland State

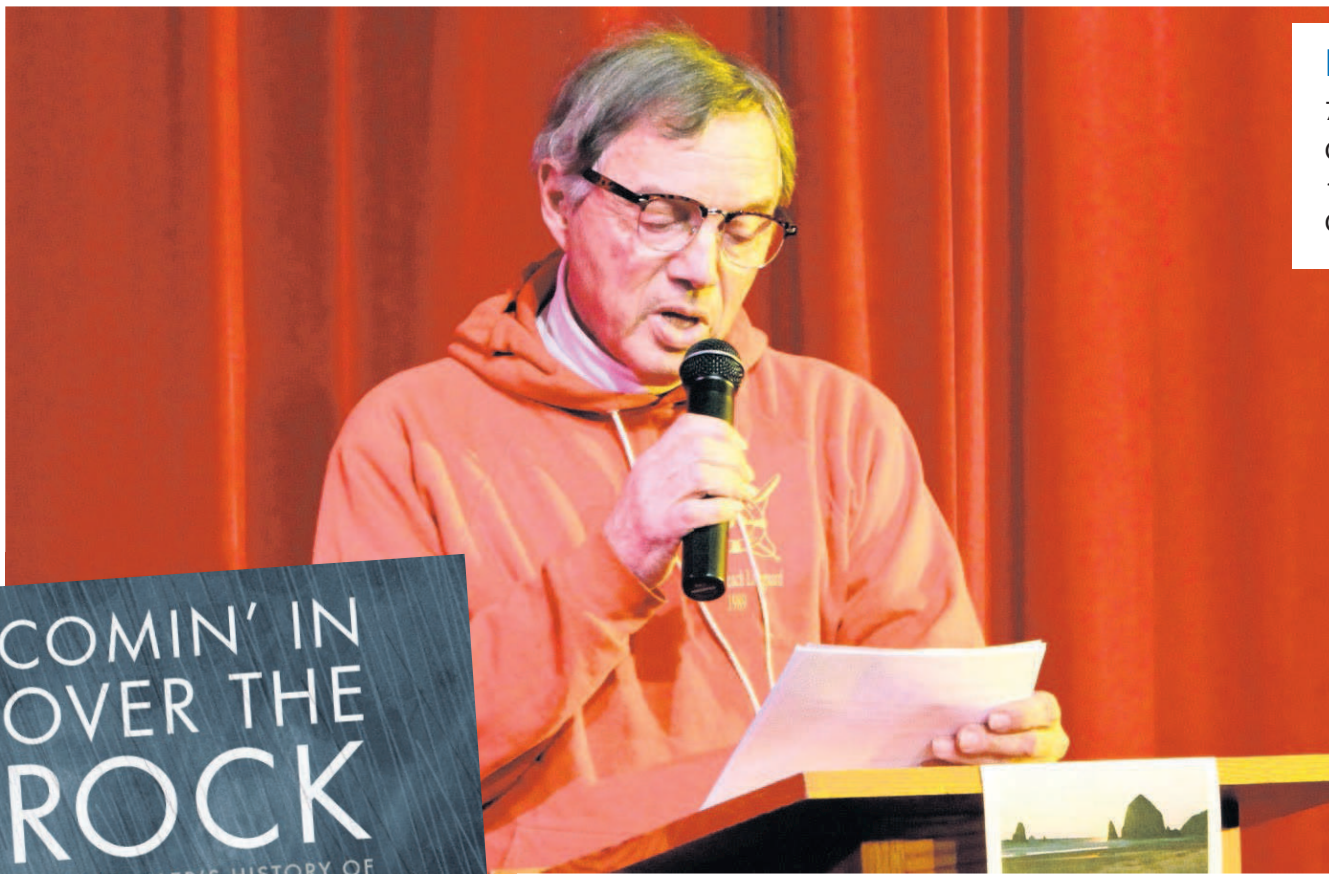
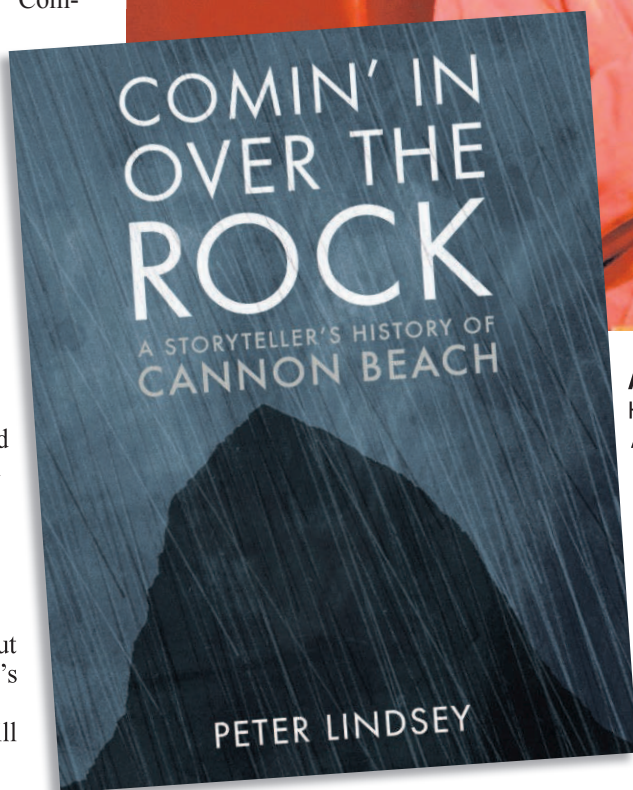


PHOTO BY KATHERINE LACAZE

ABOVE: Peter Lindsey, who grew up in Cannon Beach and attended Seaside High School, was selected as the recipient of the 2015 Oregon Coast Literary Award, presented by students from Seaside High School.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

LEFT: The cover of Peter Lindsey's new edition of "Comin' in Over the Rock: A Storyteller's History of Cannon Beach."



when Cannon Beach's "rascals" gathered in local gas stations, on the sidewalks

and in the bars.

The stories unfolded as "I and my testosterone-addled friends were hanging out," said Lindsey, whose book is filled with adventures the teenagers encountered while roaming freely on the beach and in the woods behind the town before it became a tourist destination.

"I think it should be required reading for people in Cannon Beach who have arrived in the last 20 years," Bartl said.

Although the book traces

Cannon Beach's history, it's more than that, said Lindsey's childhood friend and fellow author, Karl Marlantes, who wrote the forward to the new book.

"Histories inform: stories connect," Marlantes wrote.

"If you want to have the essence of time, stories tell it best," Lindsey added.

"My juices start to quiver when I encounter a story. If you don't collect those stories, they vanish, just like people vanish. So I cherish these things."

Seaside High School students enjoyed the stories contained in the first edition of "Comin' in Over the Rock" so much that they bestowed their annual Oregon

Coast Literary Award on him last year.

His favorite story in the new edition is "A Logger Talks to God," which he calls the "quintessential" story of the "heart of Cannon Beach and the culture of

Cannon Beach." The story also appeared in a collection of folklore stories to which Lindsey contributed

BOOK LAUNCH

7 p.m. Wednesday, June 22
Cannon Beach Book Co.
130 N. Hemlock St. No. 2,
Cannon Beach

called "The Well-Traveled Casket."

Lindsey first heard the story in the former Dueber's variety store, a "hotbed of local interaction at one time because there was so little else going on in Cannon Beach," he said.

In addition to a new forward, Lindsey's book also contains two maps of Cannon Beach and its surroundings drawn by Astoria artist Sally Lackaff. More historical photos — provided by local residents, including Jeanette Stevens, Heather Goodenough and Marlene Laws — also are included.

Bartl's stepson, Peter Grant, a graphic designer, was able to scan the historic photos and increase the resolution to improve the images for printing. A new cover features an illustration of Haystack Rock in a rainstorm, and Oregon poet Kim Stafford summarized the contents on the back page.

The book title comes from something Lindsey heard while hanging out at the old Shell gasoline station at the corner of Gower and Hemlock streets north of Haystack Rock.

"She's comin' in over the rock, today, boys!" station owner George Malstead told them, as rain whipped around the shambling, yellow-washed building.

From there, Lindsey launched the stories that fill the book.

"Everyone should have a copy," Bartl said. "This is the essential history of Cannon Beach."

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