

Cannon Beach redoubles emergency efforts

City creates new crisis team

By LYRA FONTAINE
The Daily Astorian

CANNON BEACH — Cannon Beach now has both an emergency preparedness citizens advisory committee and an emergency management team that allows staff to discuss preparedness efforts.

In its first meeting this month, the emergency management team identified the group's goals and took questions.

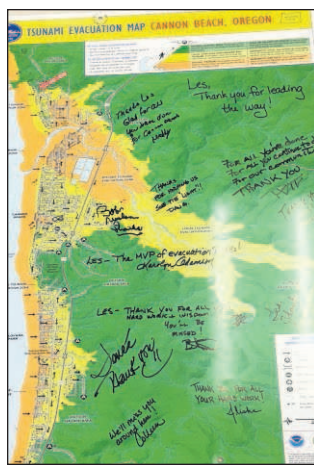
"I think the group is really excited because of the ability to communicate with each other much better," City Manager Brant Kucera said. "It's really just an information-sharing session in a lot of ways, and I think that's what some of the volunteer groups have been looking for. It went really well."



Lyra Fontaine/The Daily Astorian
Paula Vetter, left, with Les Wierson, Police Chief Jason Schermerhorn and Karolyn Adamson.

The team includes Kucera, Police Chief Jason Schermerhorn, Fire Chief Matt Benedict, Public Works Director Dan Grassick, the Commu-

nity Emergency Response Team lead, the Medical Reserve Corps lead, a vulnerable populations lead, a Red Cross lead and a Chamber of



Lyra Fontaine/The Daily Astorian
Many signed an evacuation map to say goodbye to Les Wierson, longtime emergency preparedness advocate and retiring emergency preparedness committee member, during his last meeting this month.

Commerce representative. The group does not yet have a vulnerable populations

lead dedicated to the elderly, children and disadvantaged, or a Red Cross representative. Paula Vetter coordinates CERT and Lila Wickham heads the Medical Reserve Corps.

Kucera said the meeting was not public since the group is comprised primarily of staff and no elected officials. Instead of an advisory committee, the emergency management team meetings are for sharing information, he said.

The group will meet every other month, and each meeting will produce a written report to be included in the City Council packet.

This summer, an emergency preparedness committee restructure was proposed that would make the city's emergency manager, police chief, public works director, fire chief, Community Emergency Response Team leader and Medical Reserve Corps

leader permanent voting members.

Committee members voted to maintain the current citizen advisory committee structure in September, while supporting the formation of a separate emergency management group.

"E-Prep fully supports the concept of a Cannon Beach Emergency Management Team and the continuation of a separate emergency preparedness citizen advisory committee," Karolyn Adamson, committee chairwoman, wrote in an October letter.

"It's extremely important to keep this citizen advisory committee in effect as it is now," Adamson said at an August meeting. "I think citizen committees are the bedrock of democracy."

The committee provides evacuation planning, public education and other emergency functions as directed by council.

Recapturing the stories of dory boat fishermen

Arts association presents grant to storyteller

By LYRA FONTAINE
The Daily Astorian

CANNON BEACH — Local storyteller and former commercial fisherman Peter Lindsey remembers when Cannon Beach had an active dory fishing fleet.

"It was a significant feature of our little coastal community," he said. "Over the years, we had some rather interesting experiences ... Sometimes we would battle with sharks that would get on the lines and chew off the fish we were catching."

Now, Lindsey is embarking on a project to collect the histories and tales about dory fishing off the Cannon Beach coast, which will culminate in a historical document.

To help facilitate his work, Lindsey received a grant from the Cannon Beach Arts Association. The \$3,000 grant, funded by the Mike Clark Foundation, was presented this month by Lila Wickham, president of the art association's board.

"The more projects we can do or facilitate in this way, we definitely want to be involved in," said Jane Brumfield, the art association's program director. "We are looking forward to reading the finished publication."

An active dory fleet operated in Cannon Beach during the late 1960s and early '70s, Lindsey said. The boats have a flat bottom and are about 20 feet long.

"Like loggers, fishermen as a subculture have very interesting goings-on in their lives, the way they rig their gear or the stories they tell, the legends and the general high jinks," he said. "I thought it would be fun to try to recapture some of those moments. This will give me a chance to do that, and I'm really excited about it."

With subgroups such as loggers, weavers or fishermen, "the techniques don't necessarily die, but sometimes they do, and along with them, the stories die," Lindsey said, which is why he hopes to capture the stories.



Lyra Fontaine/The Daily Astorian
Local storyteller Peter Lindsey received a grant from the Cannon Beach Arts Association for his project on Cannon Beach's formerly thriving dory fishing fleet. Board president Lila Wickham presented him with a check Dec. 2.

Dory boats were used in Cannon Beach for commercially harvesting salmon, as well as other fish like cod, Lindsey said. Though the earliest dory boats were often built by the fisherman himself, people began to build and manufacture them, most notably in Pacific City, which continues to have a substantial fleet today, he said.

Lindsey recalled the excitement and challenges of dory fishing in Cannon Beach. They would launch the boats at the needles by Haystack Rock and on a good day, he said, they

might catch 65 fish.

"Rather than go across a bar like you would in the Columbia in a big boat, these boats would take you off the beach and almost instantaneously you could fish, once you got past the surf line," Lindsey said. "We would go on the south side of Haystack early in the morning and a pickup truck would launch the boat into the water. You had to be careful because you didn't want too big of a wave to swamp your boat ... It was often done with a sole fisherman. You had to have your wits about you."

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Part of coast will open to crabbing

Associated Press

NEWPORT — Oregon officials plan to open the commercial crab season on December 18 for a portion of coast that runs from Cape Blanco to the Oregon-California border.

Officials say tests have shown low biotoxin results on

the southern end of the state.

The state Department of Fish and Wildlife and Department of Agriculture said the recreational bay and ocean crab fishery from Tillamook Head south to Cape Lookout opens on Saturday.

All recreational harvest from Tillamook Head north to, and including, the Colum-

bia River remains open.

Dungeness crabbing from Cape Lookout to Cape Blanco remains closed due to elevated levels of domoic acid.

Other areas along the central section of the Oregon Coast remain closed to crabbing due to concerns about domoic acid levels.

Feds decline to reconsider Oregon pipeline

Associated Press

COOS BAY — Federal regulators are refusing to reconsider a natural gas pipeline that would have linked to a new terminal in Coos Bay.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on Friday denied requests from the Jordan Cove Energy Project, the state of Wyoming and the Wyoming Pipeline Authority to reopen the case.

The ruling reaffirmed FERC's March decision which said there was little evidence to support the need for a pipeline and not enough public benefit.

The 230-mile pipeline route from the town of Malin, just north of the California border, to Coos Bay was opposed by private landowners and environmentalists.

It crosses rivers, mountain ranges and private and public lands.

Wyoming argued that FERC should also have considered the economic benefit to its residents from increased natural gas production.

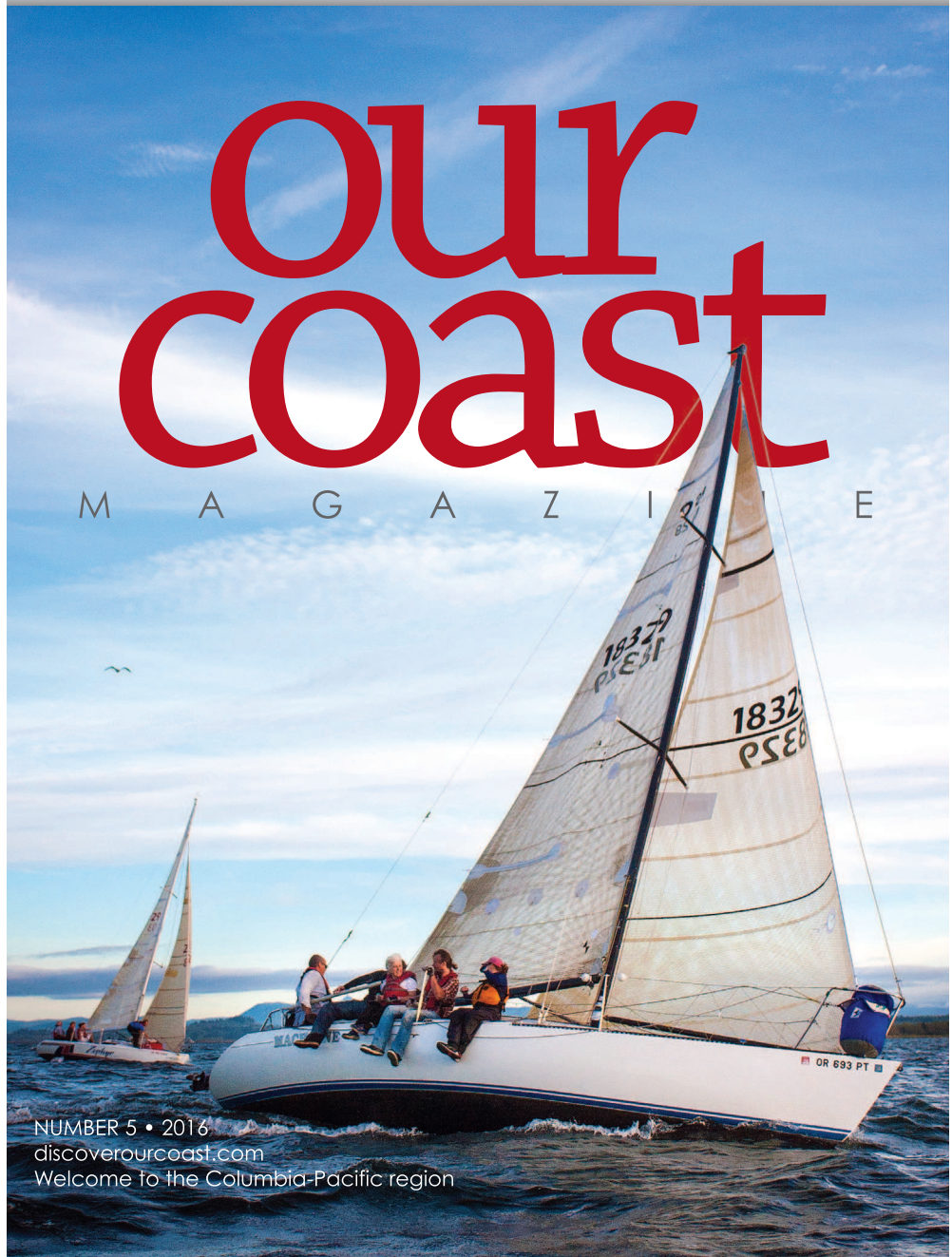
Jordan Cove was one of two LNG projects that had been proposed for the Oregon Coast. In April, Oregon LNG backed out of a \$6 billion pipeline and terminal project in Warrenton.

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