

# 'To me, this house is a person'

For one home on the Cannon Beach Cottage Tour, the woman who lived there makes it special

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COAST WEEKEND

**W**hen Kelly Giampa bought her house in Cannon Beach 15 years ago, she didn't expect the previous homeowner to come with it.

Giampa wasn't keen on Cannon Beach at first because of its "tourist feel," but after seeing "charming photos" of the inside, she decided to give it a chance.

And when she and her husband came for the showing, there was an unexpected bonus: meeting the seller of the home, Lannie Hurst, a Portland theater icon and activist.

On the outside, the house looked terrible, Giampa recalled. "We almost didn't want to go in," she said. "But when we walked in, Lannie greeted us in the kitchen, which was unusual because usually the seller isn't there."

They immediately connected and soon bonded over their shared love of Broadway, music and shared roots in Portland.

In the transition, Hurst quickly became family to the Giampas. "We told her to keep a key to the house," Giampa said. "It was our house."

The home is one of several featured in this year's Cannon Beach Cottage & Garden Tour happening Friday through Sunday, Sept. 8 through 10. On top of enjoying live concerts and luncheons, people tour homes with creative architecture, scenic landscaping and historical significance.

Built in the 1950s, Giampa's home is no exception to these features, especially after the many years she has spent gradually renovating the outside of the beachfront home.



A picture of Lannie Hurst, a Portland theater icon and activist, who passed away in 2010. Her north-end home is on the Cannon Beach Cottage & Garden Tour.



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