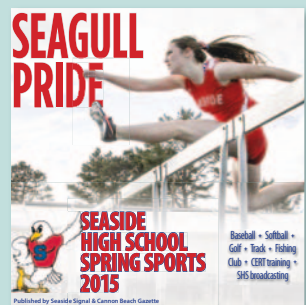




Inside this week...



**Seagull Pride**  
Spring Sports 2015

## Two Saddle Mountain rescues: same time, same place, no relation

**Agencies respond to overlapping emergencies**

By Erick Bengel  
Cannon Beach Gazette

One of the most bizarre incidents that Captain Matt Gardner, of Cannon Beach Fire and Rescue, has ever seen in his nearly eight years with the department took place on March 27, the Friday of Spring Break.

At first, the Cannon Beach Fire and Rescue team had no reason to suspect that the day would turn into a daylong series of rescues, he said.

But, once their units returned early that morning from Crescent Beach Trail after tending to a hiker with a possible femur fracture, the emergency call volume throughout Clatsop County started to pick up. Gardner began to sense how the day would trend.

"Sometimes you get a gut feeling," he said. "You can see that what's to come could make for a long day."

Gardner's hunch proved dead on.

### Double trouble

Shortly after noon, the Hamlet Volunteer Fire Department was dispatched to Saddle Mountain, where a middle-aged man appeared to be having a stroke. The Hamlet team required assistance, but its first line of backup in the "mutual aid" network, Seaside Fire Department, was busy dealing with two calls of its own.

See Rescues, Page 8A



## Lawmakers address Cannon Beach Academy, Oregon LNG at town hall forum

**Senator to give charter school a flag flown over U.S. Capitol**

By Erick Bengel  
Cannon Beach Gazette

Wearing a gray hooded sweatshirt with the Cannon Beach Academy's logo emblazoned on it, 8-year-old Jacob Dewey took the microphone and told Senator Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.) and U.S. Representative Suzanne Bonamici (D-Ore.): "We need a school in Cannon Beach. I want to know how you can help us with that."

The homeschooled son of Kellye and Ryan Dewey, a Cannon Beach couple, addressed the state politicians at the Cannon Beach Community Hall, where Merkley and Bonamici held a joint town hall meeting on the morning of April 3.

"This is the part of the job we really enjoy, is getting up here, talking to our constituents, finding out what's on their minds," the congressman said.

The discussion of the North Coast's most pressing social and political issues made for a packed hour, and touched on many familiar local topics: from the need to keep a liquefied natural gas project away from Warrenton, to the importance of fully funding the Land and Water Conservation Fund; from the desire to restore federal recognition to the Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes, to the effort to establish a charter school in Cannon Beach.

### Cannon Beach Academy

Jacob Dewey brought the charter school into the spotlight first thing.

In June 2013, the Seaside School District closed



ERICK BENDEL PHOTO

Jacob Dewey, 8, of Cannon Beach, tells his elected officials at a town hall meeting that his city needs a school. Behind him are Jenni Tronier, left, and her husband Ryan Hull, president of the Cannon Beach Academy charter school board.

Cannon Beach Elementary School and transferred its students to Seaside Heights Elementary School. Since then, a grassroots movement to set up a charter school, the Cannon Beach Academy, has taken shape, with the school's organizers now aiming for a fall 2016 opening.

"It is a very weighing time on a community, and it gets worse and worse as you don't have a school in your community," Ryan Hull, the academy's board president, said.

See Forum, Page 11A



ERICK BENDEL PHOTO

Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.), left, and U.S. Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-Ore.) take turns responding to audience questions at the joint town hall forum, held April 3 at the Cannon Beach Community Hall.

## Attention all earthlings!



ERICK BENDEL PHOTO

At last year's Earth and Arbor Day parade, held in downtown Cannon Beach, Bob Lundy, center, the 2014 Gaylord Nelson Award recipient, and then-mayor Mike Morgan carry the banner down North Hemlock Street. They are trailed closely by the Haystack Rock Awareness Program.



ERICK BENDEL PHOTO

The original artwork for the city's Beach Bill sign currently sits on the desk of the artist, Sally Lackaff, who rendered the images in pencil and watercolor, and, in ink, hand wrote the text written by Matt Love, a writer living in Astoria.

## 'Beach Bill' sign to be unveiled on Earth Day

By Erick Bengel  
Cannon Beach Gazette

Without the benefit of Oregon's public beaches, Matt Love, of Astoria, would not have become the writer and person that he is today, he said.

"This is the most important thing in my life, is being able to go to the beach for free," Love said. "It means everything to me."

And without the Beach Bill of 1967, which granted the public recreational access to the state's coastline from the ocean to the vegetation line, Oregon's beaches would not be public. Instead, they may have become the private playground of a privileged few.

"Oregon is unique in the

See Beaches, Page 12A

## Cannon Beach's Twelve Days of Earth Day is a one-of-a-kind event

By Erick Bengel  
Cannon Beach Gazette

During the fifth annual Twelve Days of Earth Day celebration, held this month from April 11 through 22, the citizens of Cannon Beach get to honor their home planet — and especially its coastal environment — from just about every imaginable angle.

Flora and fauna, sand and sea, fish and fowl, humans and habitats, climate science and conservation advocacy — each is given its moment in the sun (so to speak).

### Something for everyone

Encompassing a nature walk and a tree-planting ceremony, a walking parade and a paper shredding party, public lectures and a documentary screening, beach clean-ups and a county-wide birdathon, this year's Twelve Days schedule is meant to appeal to coolly detached observers of Her Majesty Mother Nature and to card-carrying tree huggers.

"It's a different approach to make people aware of environmental issues, and it's a positive approach," said Kirsten Massebeau, a member of the Twelve Days of Earth Day Committee. "It's education, and it's excitement about saving the environment, and it's a celebration of Earth."

The Twelve Days of Earth Day Committee is an ad hoc committee of the city's Parks and Community Services Committee. It comprises all of the parks committee members, plus other involved citizens.

See Celebration, Page 12A

## Twelve Days of Earth Day schedule of events, April 11-22

All events are free and open to the public

### Saturday, April 11

- Third annual North Oregon Coast Birdathon, a fundraising event for the Wildlife Center of the North Coast (find lists, instructions and pledge forms on Facebook at North Oregon Coast Birdathon): 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Haystack Rock Awareness Program on the beach: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

### Sunday, April 12

- Birdathon wrap-up (where pictures and stories are shared, and prizes are handed out): 9 a.m.
- Haystack Rock Awareness Program on the beach: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Monday, April 13

- Sand screening for microplastics with Marc Ward at Whale Park: 1 to 3 p.m.
- Lecture: "Climate Change Adaptation" by Charlie Plybon and Patrick Corcoran at Cannon Beach Community Hall: 6:30 p.m.
- Haystack Rock Awareness Program on the Beach: 12:15 to 5:15 p.m.

### Tuesday, April 14

- Cannon Beach City Council work session: 5:30 p.m.
- Haystack Rock Awareness Program on the beach: 1 to 6:30 p.m.

### Wednesday, April 15

- Sand screening for microplastics with Marc Ward at

See Schedule, Page 12A