

He doesn't just sell the sun, he sells the storms

CANNON SHOTS

Can a city be too successful? Courtland Carrier is well aware that there is a fine balance between a thriving downtown and a madding crowd. As the executive director of the Chamber, he has spent the last eight months developing a philosophy and an agenda to help the city navigate the complex waters of keeping Cannon Beach busy while maintaining its livability and off-the-grid sensibility.

Where else can you find a place that is gridlocked on summer weekends, yet so quiet that you can often have a world-class beach to yourself? The push and pull between people who want privacy and those who want to make it a destination. How do you manage that?

Carrier, who has spent decades in the hospitality industry as a hotelier, restaurateur and educator, came to Arch Cape five years ago, struggles himself to answer those questions.

"I've spent my whole life in the hospitality industry," Carrier says over a sandwich at the Driftwood. "I appreciate how the locals feel about their wonderful city, and their beautiful place, and not wanting to over-love it to death with a lot of visitors. You can literally over-love it to death."

"During the value season during the winter season, and during the shoulder season during the fall and spring — in between peak and off-season, half-way between a very busy place, and a slower time period," he says. "The challenge

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Courtland Carrier

Cannon Beach is you have a small town of 1,600 people who cherish the beauty and the community that they love very much.

Then the wave. "When you get a peak summer season, it's a lot of people competing for parking, competing for services, being able to get into a restaurant, getting out to see an attraction," Carrier says. "When my wife and I first moved here, I said, 'Let's take a hike to Ecola.'

We took our car, went up Ecola Park Road — then we hit a line of cars. It was already a parking lot, and you can't get in until someone gets out.

"We do have to maintain a fine line and a balance between doing good business and keeping people employed, and keeping business people healthy so they can survive from peak season to peak season. There are lot of businesses that make a lot of money during the summer, but they don't do as well as in the off season."

Carrier seeks to build business where business does not exist. "You need to build on it when it may not be pretty outside, it may be rainy, windy, or blustery, and sometimes, once in a blue moon, it's snowing," he says.

After a mild winter and ongoing California drought, some residents are both tantalized and terrified by the prospect of a warmer, drier future.

"I think if I were to take a snapshot of time, I'd say from January to March, we're going to be the California of the future," Carrier says. "I'm not saying that will be the case, but I'm not going to ignore it. We will still be one of the most moderate places in the country. Everybody else is getting warmer too. Will there be an impact? There will be, which means we'll need to do a better job conserving water."

Carrier says he believes Cannon Beach needs a new school. "I know as for education it really struck a nerve when I saw they closed down



R.J. MARX PHOTO

Courtland Carrier in front of the Visitor Center, 207 N. Spruce.

the local school and the kids had to be bused," he says. "I understand if you're a high school student, that eight miles is not a huge deal. But the fact that they closed down the school caused a ripple effect that make it harder for people to come and work here."

He supports the arrival of Cannon Beach Academy charter school in Cannon Beach. He advocates greater housing opportunities that allow workers to remain in the city.

He says the best advocates for the community are those who live and were raised here. "I'd like to see our city and business community work together to find a

creative solution to the affordable housing solution. A person that's local takes pride. He says, 'I grew up here, the best place to have a picnic is over here.' The residents are by far the best advocates of the city."

"I see a city that's open and welcome that there are other things that need to be done to invest in our only industry," Carrier says. "I'm heartened that the city and council have agreed to reinvest to the marketing and promotion of Cannon Beach."

Most residents would whole-heartedly agree with his goals. They would just warn him — don't be "too" successful.

At the Library CARLA O'REILLY

Library regular Steve McLeod will be missed here

Since I volunteer most Mondays at the library, I have met people from all over the world — Argentina, Africa, Paris, Israel, and many others (just have a look at our guest book!). But my favorite library patrons have always been local residents, who have the most interesting stories of all. Steve McLeod, whom we lost recently, was one of those. There have been several profiles of Steve which have emphasized his artistic abilities, but I would like to share the Steve the library knew. He would saunter in most Mondays, always with books to return under his arm — fiction and nonfiction alike. He never took very long to choose new books, and he



CARLA O'REILLY

always made the comment, "I'll try these!" He was a most earthy, good-hearted man. On one winter afternoon when Steve was in the library, I was getting ready to close when a rather questionable individual came through the door. It was dark, beginning to rain, and for some

reason I didn't want to be alone in the library with a complete stranger. I took Steve aside and asked him if he would stay with me until I closed up. He did, very accommodatingly — and I've never forgotten the kind favor he did for me that evening. RIP, Steve, you are missed!

Second annual summer youth reading contest

We are repeating our very successful youth reading contest this summer. Called "Catch a Dragon by the Tail," it is aimed at children, tweens, and teens, with prizes throughout. Registration was June 12, but it's by no means too late, as the con-

test doesn't end until August 24th. Just check in at the library desk, and we'll explain how the contest works.

Fourth of July Book sale

The Fourth of July is just around the corner, surprisingly! We are eagerly accepting book donations at this time — the sooner the better! Spread the word by reminding your neighbors, relatives, and friends. We also need lots of volunteer help for our three day book sale, so if you'll be around and have some time, stop in an see us during library hours. The sale this year will be Friday, July 3, Saturday, July 4, and Sunday, July 5. We will need lots of help setting up Thursday, July 2. Call us!



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The library will celebrate quilt raffle tickets throughout the autumn. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. The raffle drawing will be in December.

Woman honored for help in nabbing kidnapper



R.J. MARX PHOTO

Cannon Beach resident Allison Johnson, with son Odin, is honored by Cannon Beach Police Chief Jason Schermerhorn for her action in alerting police of alleged kidnapper Russell DeViney. The appreciation came at the June 2 City Council meeting.

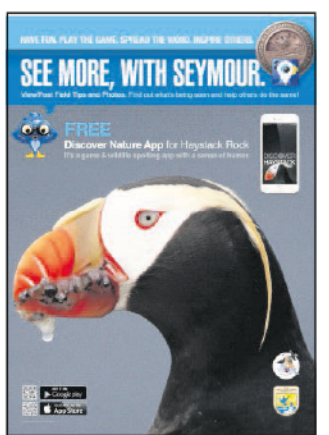
Seabird App takes flight at Oregon Islands NWR

Ushering in an era of digital engagement and fun for the millions of smartdevice-carrying visitors to Oregon's spectacular coast, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in partnership with the Friends of Haystack Rock and the Haystack Rock Awareness Program, is launching an interactive, place-based game app. The public is invited to attend a launch party at Haystack Rock Saturday, June 20 at 9 a.m. in conjunction with the Cannon Beach Sandcastle Contest. Called "Discover Haystack," the game based app will teach visitors about the diverse seabirds, marine mammals, rocky shore habitats and creatures that make the Oregon Coast such a vibrant and wondrous ecological system.

Developed by Discover Nature Apps, an award

winning mission-driven app developer, the "Discover Haystack" game includes a GPS-guided nature-based scavenger hunt; the ability for users to post and view field tips and photographs; and the opportunity to share their experiences on social media. The app is free; simply search for "Discover Nature Apps" on iTunes or Google Play Store.

To play the "Discover Haystack" game, users must be at Haystack Rock in Cannon Beach. People visiting as a group can compete against one another, or families can opt to work as a team. Beyond the game, the app offers opportunities for users to capture photos of their discoveries including field notes such as where they are seeing tufted puffins or sunflower sea stars. The discoveries, notes



and photos are viewable in a digital photo gallery that will be accessible worldwide.

To participate in the launch party, visit the Cannon Beach Sandcastle Contest Information Booth and pick up information on how to download the app. Then walk over to Haystack Rock to play the game with others from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., June 20.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS IN BRIEF

Help kids run with Track Town league

Providence Health & Services is sponsoring the second annual TrackTown Youth League, a series of 12 all-comer youth track meets across the state this spring. TrackTown Youth League meets are free of charge and open to boys and girls ages 8-14. Events include the 100 meters, 400 meters, 1,500 meters, long jump and turbojav. No prior track and field experience is needed.

Top finishers from each meet will advance to the TrackTown Youth League Championship meet on June 27 at Hayward Field during the USA Outdoor Track & Field Championships in Eugene. The event takes place Monday, June 22, 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Warrenton Grade School, 820 SW Cedar, Warrenton. Partici-

pants are encouraged to sign up online at www.tracktownyouthleague.com or in person prior to each meet.

The TrackTown Youth League is a partnership formed by Oregon Sports Authority Foundation and TrackTown USA to encourage Oregon's youth to become healthy and active members of the community. More than 500 kids throughout Oregon participated in the inaugural TrackTown Youth League in 2014, culminating with a special championship meet at Hayward Field during the IAAF World Junior Championships. For more information, visit tracktownyouthleague.com.

Enjoy lunch with author Timothy Lane

Beach Books will hold the first "Lunch in the Loft on a Saturday"

Thursday, July 9 with author Timothy Lane.

Lane's career has taken him from Astoria to sports reporting to the New York world of publishing and now to Portland. His debut novel, "Rules for Becoming a Legend" is the story of a young basketball prodigy who struggles under the crushing weight of his small town's high expectations, and the ways in which families can fall apart and come together again. Lots of places in Lane's book are familiar, including the Brick House — Astoria's well-known gym. It's about basketball and more: fathers, and sons, expectations and disappointments.

The cost of the lunch is \$30 and includes a signed copy of the book. Reserve a second lunch for \$5 extra. Call (503) 738-3500 for reservations and additional information.

Science workshops this summer

All those who would like to learn more about coastal natural history and the Oregon shoreline have an extraordinary opportunity this summer. The CoastWatch program is offering intensive, three-day workshops, led by ecologist Stewart Schultz, an authority on the Northwest's coastal region. He will be joined by Fawn Custer, CoastWatch's volunteer coordinator.

The workshops will be held in Arch Cape, July 18-20; Depoe Bay, Aug. 1-3; and Port Orford, Aug. 14-16. Three full days of instruction will cover the major coastal ecosystems: tidepools, sandy beaches, estuaries, forests and the nearshore

ocean. Tides, landforms, birds and marine mammals will be considered. Matters of concern such as marine debris and invasive species will also be discussed. This year there will be a special emphasis on Oregon's marine reserves. Each session will include field trips, indoor presentations and laboratory experiences.

While the workshops were developed to provide training to volunteers interested in citizen science and monitoring the shoreline (including participants in CoastWatch), they are open to the public, and would be of interest to anyone who is fascinated by the ecology of our coastal region. Teachers and other professionals can obtain 24 professional development units by taking a workshop.