

Quake, tsunami threats put local bridges at risk

Weak bridges could pose serious problems

By Dani Palmer Cannon Beach Gazette

If an earthquake were to shake the Oregon coast, the bridge over Ecola Creek likely wouldn't survive, making it even harder for people in downtown Cannon Beach to survive the following tsunami.

Because of the likelihood of a bridge collapse, the city's evacuation map guides residents and visitors south, toward midtown. It's a longer route that could eat up valuable time, Emergency Preparedness Committee Vice Chairman Les Wierson said during a meeting Friday, Sept. 25.

The risk has prompted the committee to take a closer look at options, such as a replacement bridge, pedestrian bridge or a bridge relocation.

See Bridges, Page 9A

Cannon Beach property owner prevails in state board decision

Jeff Nicholson wins OK for four homes on half-acre property

Cannon Beach is newest home to Pelican

New brewery aims for spring 2016 opening

By Dani Palmer Cannon Beach Gazette

The newest Pelican swooped into Cannon Beach Tuesday, Sept. 29, as residents and city officials welcomed Pelican Brewing Co. Pelican officially broke ground as chef John Newman served crab cakes and mushrooms prepared on a grill and the famed brewery poured their signature product.

"I'm excited they're bringing a business down here; to have something anchor people here," local business owner Jill Kratochvil said.

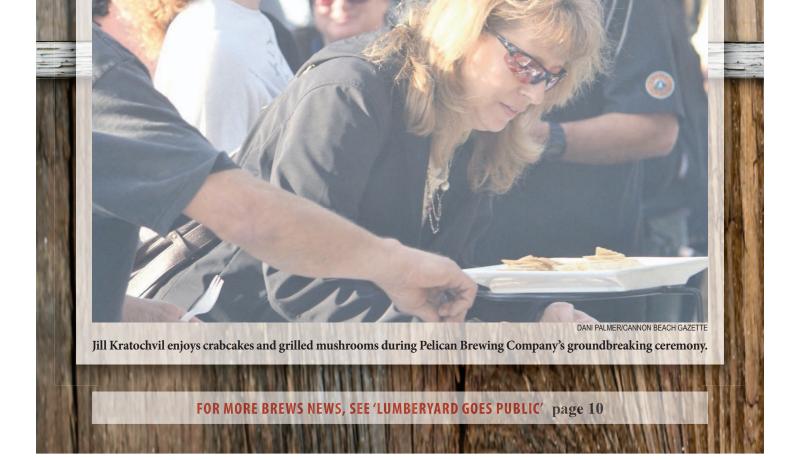
Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Court

Carrier said Pelican will bring "new vitality" to an area of town that sees less foot traffic. Many visitors stay in midtown hotels, but shop downtown.

Pelican demolished the former Dooger's Seafood and Grill at 1371 South Hemlock St., vacant since 2011, to build its third location along the coast. The brewing company first opened in Pacific City in 1996, and added a site in Tillamook in 2013. Co-owner Mary Jones said they "love being on the coast" and had contemplated the new location for years.

"As we've moved through that process, it's become increasingly clear what a great choice that's been and

See Pelican, Page 10A



By R.J. Marx Cannon Beach Gazette

An attempt to block the city's approval of a north-end development project got shut down last week with a decision by the state's Land Use Board of Appeals.

The city of Cannon Beach and Portland resident Jeff Nicholson won an OK to build and eventually sell three new homes on his 0.57-acre North Laurel St. property purchased in 2014 for \$900,000. A fourth home on the property will be rebuilt with a condition that the home's wood, beams and windows be salvaged.

"It was the decision we were hoping for," Will Rasmussen, an attorney who represented the property owner, said Monday. "The decision was, frankly, a win for Cannon Beach. LUBA decided that Cannon Beach followed all the rules they needed to follow in approving this."

After the city's Planning Commission denied Nicholson's application

See Development, Page 9A



Community rallies as local kids battle leukemia

By Dani Palmer

Cannon Beach Gazette

Two local families received news no parent wants to hear, but they aren't alone in the fight. South County has pulled together to help the families of Isair Leon-Mejia, 6, and Taylor Burden, 2, both of whom were diagnosed with leukemia this summer.

On Sept. 22, Yasemin Gadelhak hosted an hour-long dance fitness class in Cannon Beach, raising \$1,500 for the families. Other events have been held to help, and Escape Lodging's Misty Kawasoe, who works with the Leon-Mejia family, said more are in the works. The community has also set up bank and GoFundMe accounts to provide medical assistance and support.

Isair's mother, Julie, said they began to notice something was wrong with her son around the Fourth of July. Isair was quiet, fatigued and had no appetite — unusual for the "food fanatic."

"We thought he was coming down with a cold," she said. "We didn't think much of it."

Julie and her husband, José, made a doctor's appointment for him, but Isair later developed a

fever and swollen glands while visiting family. They took him to the ER, where doctors initially thought he had strep throat. Then Julie questioned his symptoms.

Medical staff ran blood tests and started an IV immediately. Julie learned that Isair was anemic and possibly had leukemia, a blood cell cancer.

"Everything paused at that moment," she said. "I had to hold myself together."

Doctors gave Isair a blood transfusion and rushed him to Doernbecher Children's Hospital in Portland. His immune system was so weak, he was kept at the hospital for the next five days.

They ended up in a hotel until a room in the Ronald McDonald House opened. They stayed there before moving to a floor dedicated to Ronald McDonald at the Marriott.

Finally, on Sept. 8, the family got to come home.

"He really started progressing," Julie said.

When Isair blamed himself for the disease, his mother reassured him it was nothing he'd done.



Mariliz Leon-Mejia, 7, and her brother, Isair, 6, pose together at the hospital. Isair has leukemia and is undergoing treatment.

Man is sentenced to probation for sex abuse

By Kyle Spurr EO Media Group

The 22-year-old man who sexually abused a 19-year-old culinary student at the Cannon Beach Christian Conference Center in December was sentenced to five years probation.

Mitchell Ellis Corbin, of Portland, pleaded guilty Friday, Oct. 2, in Clatsop County Circuit Court to second-degree sex abuse. Additional charges of first-degree sodomy, first-degree attempted rape and first-degree unlawful sexual penetration were dropped through the plea agreement. Corbin was working on staff at the Christian Conference Center when he met the 19-year-old woman, who was attending a culinary class.

The sex abuse reportedly occurred in a housing unit at the conference center.

He was arrested in April at his parent's house in Portland and booked into Clatsop County Jail.

The victim did not attended the sentencing hearing Friday, but did send a statement that Prosecutor Scott McCracken read on her behalf. The statement described how she trusted Corbin as a friend and shared her worries and hardships with him. He listened and sympathized, but then took advantage of her emotional state, she said.

"If only I had known what your real intentions were before you proceeded to go too far," she wrote in the statement.

Judge Philip Nelson ordered Corbin to have no contact with the victim or her family.

The prosecution has 30 days to determine a restitution amount.



MITCHELL ELLIS CORBIN

Corbin must register as a sex offender and is ordered to have no contact with minors.

His defense lawyer James von Boeckmann asked Judge Nelson to make an exception to the no contact with minors order by allowing him to live at home with his teenage siblings. The judge allowed it.

"I'm going to ask your honor to make an exception to allow him to get on with his life and pick up the pieces sooner rather than later," von Boeckmann said.

CANNON BEACH POLICE LOG

REX AMOS/FOR CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

A dead shark washed ashore in Cannon Beach.

Shark washes ashore in Cannon Beach

This 6-foot shark washed ashore in Cannon Beach near Breakers Point and was found on Sept. 26. Thought to be a soupfin shark, it was likely the bycatch of local fishermen, Seaside Aquarium Administrative Assistant Tiffany Boothe said. Bycatch are fish unintentionally

caught in a fishery designed to catch other fish. Although the cause of death isn't 100 percent certain, Boothe said a couple of small sharks have been found on Clatsop County beaches recently, during the September fishing season, leading to the conclusion.

Sept. 13

8:24 p.m. Chapman Point: fire investigation. Subjects were warned of the fire ban.

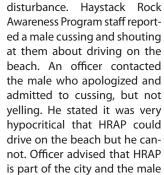
Sept. 18

5 p.m. Shorewood Apartments: interference with a police officer.

Sept. 19

🔶 FUN

11:46 a.m. Haystack Rock:



apologized, stating he did not know that. He was warned for disorderly conduct.

Sept. 21

12:18 a.m. Hemlock Street and Vista Del Mar: DUII. Subject was arrested for DUII and reckless driving following a crash investigation. Subject refused breath sample, so a search warrant blood draw will determine BAC.

8:54 p.m. 100 block of North Hemlock Street: theft. Theft of services. A dine and dash.

Sept. 22

12:50 p.m. 1200 block of South Hemlock Street: disturbance.

Sept. 24

12:45 a.m. 200 block of Tok Lane: suspicious circumstances.

The passenger door and trunk of a vehicle were left open during the power outage. An officer contacted the owner and advised.

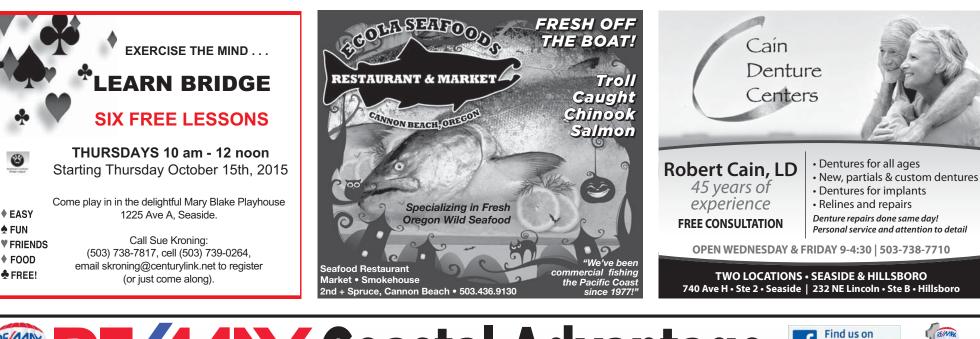
3:09 p.m. 200 block of West 2nd Street: criminal mischief III.

Sept. 25

6:59 a.m. 200 block of North Hemlock: suspicious circumstances. Report of a suspicious person looking into cars. An officer responded and made contact. The subject moved along

2:15 p.m. 3100 block of South Hemlock Street: public indecency.

There were 32 cases of illegal camping and two animal complaints.





Judge OKs mental health check for accused killer Smith

Attorneys spar over timelines in alleged killer's case

By Dani Palmer Cannon Beach Gazette

Clatsop County Circuit Court Judge Cindee Matvas gave the District Attorney's Office the go-ahead for a mental health evaluation with alleged killer Jessica Smith on Friday, Oct. 2.

Smith, 41, of Goldendale, Washington, appeared in court shackled and in a blue jumpsuit. She is accused of aggravated murder and attempted aggravated murder for allegedly drugging and murdering her daughter, Isabella Smith, 2, and attempting to kill her older daughter, Alana Smith, 13, in a Cannon Beach hotel in July 2014.

Smith's attorney William Falls and his co-counsel plan to use a diminished capacity defense, and on Aug. 28, opposed the state's chosen evaluator, Dr. Paul Guastadisegni, because Falls claimed the Portland-based psychologist lacked the proper credentials to do such an examination under new state standards.

"Frankly, this is sandbagging," District Attorney Josh Marquis said.

He said he sent Guastadisegni's background to Falls and co-counsel Lynne Morgan in July, six weeks before the status hearing in August.



JOSHUA BESSEX/THE DAILY ASTORIAN

Falls didn't oppose the proposed evaluator until the

morning of that court date. In response, Marquis said the state took extra steps as a precaution, ensuring Guastadisegni has been temporarily and conditionally certified to do the evaluation.

"The state is entitled to its examination," Matyas told Falls, adding she believes Guastadisegni is appropriate. She ordered that the state's

evaluation take place Oct. 13 and 14, as previously set.

Falls countered he'd rather wait until Morgan is available, prompting Matyas to ask why he'd agreed to the date in the first place, if Guastadisegni ended up certified for the job.

Falls said he plans to file notice of when Morgan is available, adding it is Smith's constitutional right to have all counsel present during such an evaluation.

Jessica Smith is led into a status hearing at the Clatsop County Courthouse.

Matyas noted the dates could change if there was mutual agreement between the defense and prosecution

"These are time-consuming evaluations," she said. "The exchange of information is critical for both sides."

She also granted Falls permission to video the evaluation after discussion, as long as an unedited copy is made for the District Attorney's Office.

Marquis expressed concern in that neither he nor his

deputy attorneys will be there for that evaluation while the defense has already stated it's not going to allow Smith to answer questions that may incriminate her.

If Falls objects to questions about Smith's marriage

"This is not an elaborate chess game," Marquis said. "We're trying to expedite discovery in a complicated case."

Matyas said the parameters the state sets forth should be enough, and that she's not going to "micromanage" the evaluation.

Deputy District Attorney Dawn Buzzard brought up

defense-hired Dr. Beth Howell, who's visited Smith in iail half a dozen times since July, according to jail records.

receives a report and decides to use it.

The district attorney's office filed a motion to compel discovery Oct. 1.

"This case is going slower than the state and, I think, court want," Marquis said.

He noted Howell worked with the defense on the Adrien Wallace case in 2014, **LEFT: District At**torney Josh Marquis speaks during a status hearing for Jessica Smith at the Clatsop **County Courthouse.**

JOSHUA BESSEX/THE DAILY ASTORIAN

ABOVE: Jessica Smith, left, appears for a status hearing at

JOSHUA BESSEX/THE DAILY ASTORIAN

in which the state didn't receive discovery until the trial began, delaying the case.

Wallace, of Lake Oswego, was convicted of murdering his 71-year-old mother and teenage nephew in 2012, and sentenced to life in jail, according to court records.

Marquis added he doesn't want his office to be put in the same situation if the defense decides to put Howell on the stand.

Matyas said she'll consider the compel motion, but needs to give Falls a chance to respond first.

"Today, I don't believe, would be the day," she said. The trial is set for June 2016.

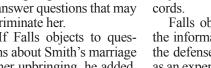
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Support your local firefighters at ham dinner

Cannon Beach Volunteer Firefighters will hold their 68th Annual Benefit Ham Dinner, Saturday, Oct. 10, from 4:30 to 8 p.m. The dinner will be held at the Cannon Beach Conference Center, 3rd and Spruce streets. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12. Tickets are available at the door. All funds will be used to purchase firefighting, medical and rescue equipment.

Falls objected and called the information irrelevant as the defense has not filed her as an expert witness. He added the state cannot force the defense to "file evidence of a particular nature" until he

the Clatsop County Courthouse.



or her upbringing, he added, then there's no point in doing an evaluation.



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Finding a personal connection amid the tragedy

How can we process yet another campus shooting?

By R.J. Marx Cannon Beach Gazette

remember where I was when I first heard the news of the Sandy Hook school shootings in Newtown, Connecticut.

I was about 25 miles away at a Christmas party, when a columnist came in and said "there was a shooting in Newtown, maybe at a school.

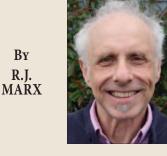
We took in the news, but didn't put down our forks. Even then, the thought was, "Oh, just another random shooting." It's that easy to be jaded.

As the day went on, the magnitude of the horrific incident unfolded.

On the morning of Dec. 14, Adam Lanza, 20, killed 26 people at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown. Twenty of the slain were first-grade students. Others were teachers and aides. Earlier that morning, Lanza had also killed his mother in their home. He later took his own life.

My reactions Thursday in Oregon were similar to those I felt in December 2012.

After all, it was supposed to be something of a festive day in the state, marking the first day



Like everywhere, the line 'It can't happen here' is a tired cliché. We all know it can.

of recreational marijuana sales, the end of a fight that had divided citizens for years and backed up city council calendars like a clogged water pipe. That Thursday night, we were prepared for the somber airing of Oregon Public Broadcasting's "Unprepared," the documentary on the threat of a Cascadia Subduction Zone megaquake. Enough gravitas for one day.

Then the news.

Not another campus shooting. Not to hear the news from the small city of Roseburg in central Oregon.

Yet that was exactly what we were hearing. As the day unfolded, we learned a 26-year-old man had shot and killed nine people in an introductory English composition class at Roseburg's Umpqua Community College before dying, either in a shootout or by his own hand.

Media briefings flowed in from the Douglas County Sheriff's Office. CNN, Fox, MSNBC - all were there. The shooter, Christopher Sean Harper-Mercer, was described as a California transplant with a fetish for military gear and weapons. A loner. Nobody knew much about him.

In hours, the incident spurred gun debate anew, brought President Obama and the National Rifle Association to the fore, and invoked Sandy Hook, Aurora, Colorado, and Virginia Tech.

And then we on the coast received concerned calls and emails. To many people outside the state, Roseburg might as well be Portland. "Was this near you?" "Are you all right?" "God, how horrible!"

I barely know Roseburg, other than for its proximity to Eugene. where my son went to college. I think we've driven through it a couple of times. Roseburg sounds like a nice, family community, a lot like Newtown.

In reality, Oregon is a big state and Roseburg is far away from Clatsop County.

So I told my concerned East Coast friends, "No, it wasn't near us. We are all right. And yes, it was horrible."



A young mourner is escorted from the funeral of teacher Anne Marie Murphy at the St. Mary Of The Assumption Church in Katonah, N.Y., Dec. 20, 2012.

It all felt so glib and impersonal, as if it was just another layer of cushion from tragedy.

Then I remembered the aftermath of Sandy Hook. One of the victims, Anne Marie Murphy, was a local resident. Murphy, 52, was employed by the Newtown Board of Education as a teacher at Sandy Hook Elementary. She happened to be the sister of my dentist, and although she had lived in Newtown for 14 years, she was born and raised in our little New York community. Her body was found cradling 6-year-old special-needs student Dylan Hockley, who also died in the massacre.

The Roman Catholic Church held a funeral Mass six days later. It was filled to overflowing with people who remembered her. The Archbishop of New York, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, conducted Anne Marie

Murphy, victim of the 2012 Newtown, Connecticut shooting.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/ EO MEDIA GROUP

the funeral. In an obituary, Anne Marie Murphy was remembered for her love of the arts, walks in the outdoors and, most importantly, her family.

Later Thursday afternoon, a man came into The Seaside Signal office and had a hollow look on his face. "I went to that college, you know," he said. "It was 30 years ago. But I went to that college."

It was this connection — tenuous as it might be. Much like that we felt with Anne Marie Murphy in our New York town, that we both dread and yet need. We need something to link to our personal core, a connection, slim as it might be, of a friend of a friend, someone we once worked with or just recognition of a place we passed through and stopped for lunch.

My connection, this time, is Oregon. No state has a stronger identity. Like everywhere, the line "It can't happen here" is a tired cliché. We all know it can. The question is, what are we going to do about it?

R.J. Marx can be reached at rmarx@cannonbeachgazette.com.

At the Library carla o'reilly Fall festival at the library was a smashing success

As we move into a time of dark, cold nights and nippy mornings, we look forward to cozying up to a fire and planning for Halloween and Thanksgiving.

At the library, we've already had one autumnal event, our famous annual Fall Festival. We've been baking, stitching, and making up beautiful gift baskets for weeks, and the result was a wonderful day of conversing with locals and visitors alike as they browsed through the library and chose warm handmade hats, scarves, and tea cozies, as well as delicious cookies and pies provided by our dedicated circle of volunteers. The festival is an important fundraiser for town Cannon Beach. Chil-

the library, but it's also a much-loved event, fun to put on and fun to attend!

Zombie Fest!!!

On Saturday, Oct. 31, children 8 and up are invited to attend a Halloween event, Zombie Fest, presented by local author Gregory Zschomler. The event consists of a book reading, Zombie games, Zombie treats, and best of all, a Zombie makeup demonstration. Though this may not be appropriate for very young children, the nicest thing about it is that it is being held from 1 to 3 p.m. so could be easily combined with annual trick-or-treating in down-



dren are encouraged to attend in their costumes!

Other upcoming library events

On Saturday, Oct. 10, author Valerie Geary will be coming to our library at 2 p.m. as part of our ongoing author series. She will be

talking about her debut novel Crooked River. The book is about two young sisters who are grieving the death of their mother. The girls are taken from Eugene to live with their father in a teepee in rural Oregon. When a body is found floating in Crooked River, the father becomes an instant suspect. Convinced that their father is not guilty, the sisters embark on a desperate attempt to save their damaged family and prove their father not guilty of the crime. This month the Cannon

Beach Reads group will meet Wednesday, Oct. 21, at 7 p.m. The group has been reading "Frog Music," the latest novel written by author Emma Donoghue. She was born in Dublin, and now lives in Can-



Mom Lyla Farrell, Grandma Frankie Byers and Daughter Allie Anderson from last year's Festival.

ada with her family. The novel is a multifaceted murder mystery set in San Francisco in 1876. New members are welcome

As always at the Cannon Beach Library, special events

are fun and worthwhile, but sitting at our antique table and enjoying the warmth of our fireplace are wonderful as well. We have free Wi-Fi and plenty of books of all types. Drop in to warm up!

CARLA O'REILLY

Boac's Bird Notes susan boac Buffleheads making their return to Cannon Beach

LETTERS

Who hasn't noticed the migratory movements of our feather friends? Thought to happen in spring and fall, this phenomenon happens pretty much year round!

It's easy to spot the V's of migrating geese and ducks. Worldwide it is believed that 5 billion birds migrate, some taking on amazing feats of stamina across oceans and other nonstop distances. And some are short. Like the blue grouse, that migrates on foot (up and down a hillside)!

I am reading and highly recommend the book "Living on The Wind, Across the Hemisphere with Migratory Birds," by Scott Weidensaul. His writing is crafted

beautifully which makes the topic even more fascinating. Weidensaul presents ideas and research about migration, timing and other specifics about types of birds and personal experiences. I would tag along with him on a bird adventure any day!

Our beloved tufted puffins have headed out to their wintering "grounds." Puffins migrate a little differently from "normal" movements the — north in the summer and south in the winter — we often associate with these yearly departures and arrivals. Puffins head out to the ocean in August, usually north of Oregon, spending their winter about 200 miles off shore. My



SUSAN BOAC

husband Scott says the fish puffins eat swim more slowly in cold water and they seek that easy meal.

And what about the birds coming into our region for the winter? This week, I have started to see golden-crowned

sparrows. This species' migration can be long or short. Did they fly in from nesting in Canada or Alaska or did they spend the breeding season in the forest just outside of town? Dark-eyed juncos whose migration is similar, are showing up in numbers too. My husband and I always enjoy the return of buffleheads. Have you seen one recently?

Then there are the birds that stop by for a quick rest and refueling. Sharp tailed sandpipers are causing quite a stir at the Astoria Mitigation Bank this week. This species nests in Siberia and usually takes a flight path south along the Russian coast. The book



A golden-crowned sparrow in Cannon Beach.

"Birds of Oregon" says sometimes juveniles take this alternative route along our Pacific coast on their way to south Pacific islands or Australia.

Bird walk

Please join a group of people on the first Sunday of the month for birding in the Cannon Beach area. We will meet at the Lagoon Trail parking lot on Second Street at 9 a.m. and bird until about 11. Bring binoculars and wear appropriate clothing. Everyone is welcome!

Susan has spent her life enjoying the great outdoors from the lakes and woods of Northern Minnesota, Mt. Adams in Washington and now the Oregon beach environs. After spending many pleasurable hours driving her avid birder parents around, she has taken up birding as a passion, to the mixed emotions of her husband Scott. The Boacs reside on the Neawanna Creek in Seaside where their backyard is a birder's paradise.

Appeasement 2.0

Most people understand that Neville Chamberlain's 1938 appeasement to Nazi Germany helped fuel World War II, which killed over 50 million people. The Iran Agreement is in the same category, as it does nothing to preserve security or freedom of the U.S. or Israel. This agreement gives Iran the following benefits:

• \$150 billion dollars to sponsor terrorism throughout the Middle East, Western Europe and U.S.

• It maintains Iran's nuclear enrichment programs, which keeps 6,000 operational centers (5,000 centrifuges and another 1,000 for advance research).

 It lacks verifiable inspection and a verification system. Having Iran inspectors is like giving bank robber Willy Sutton approval to guard the bank vault. Giving Iran a

23-day advance notice of inspection, rather than instant inspection, is unacceptable; Iran can hide and move everything in 23 days.

• It is a temporary agreement, 10 years at most, and some provisions are only for 8.4 years.

 Iran can upgrade weapons systems to target Israel and the U.S.

· Iran is in current violation of more than 20 international agreements, giving weapons to the terrorist group Hezbollah and the Syrian president, Bashar al-Assad.

• There are unknown side agreements that are probably in Iran's favor.

At this crucial time, we need statesmen, not political Obama puppets like Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley, who support this agreement. Just ask Democratic Senators Chuck Summer, Ben Cardin and Bob Menendez, who are

against this agreement.

Ron Wyden must not be reelected in November 2016.

As Benjamin Franklin stated, "Those who would give up essential liberty, to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety."

> Larry Sparks **Cannon Beach**

Tree pruning violates the city's ordinance

In his column "Cannon Shots: Much ado about something" Cannon Beach Gazette, Sept. 11, R.J. Marx wrote about the honor of Cannon Beach being designated Tree City USA. He then juxtaposed this honor with the irony at the time of the city's designating two ancient spruce trees for removal at north 5th and Larch streets. A few residents wrote letters to get this wrong-headed decision by the city works

director revoked. However an even larger irony looms over our new Tree City USA membership

While still awaiting a decision from the Land Use Board of Appeals regarding his property at 532 N. Laurel St., Jeff Nicholson has had his 17 spruce trees mutilated by over-pruning into what one arborist refers to as "toilet brush" trees, leaving the trees open for disease and wind damage. What Mr. Nicholson did accomplish was creating a great view of the ocean from his property, even though these trees are protected by city ordinance 17.70.030 which states that all trees north of Ecola Creek and west of Laurel Street must be pruned to meet International Standards of Arboriculture. The city planner allowed Mr. Nicholson to violate these standards because he did not make sure an arborist was on Mr. Nicholson's property when the work was done as was the case when trees growing in the area of the Chapman Point Homeowners Association were pruned recently

Again, it took concerned citizens to discover the mutilation of Mr. Nicholson's trees. Only after more letters were written did the city planner and city manager have an arborist take a look. When the city arborist was finally called upon to inspect, he did not even go onto Mr. Nicholson's property. Instead by looking through binoculars, he determined that 17 trees were overpruned. After the city then levied an appropriate fine, Mr. Nicholson hired an arborist who claimed that only four trees were badly limbed. With no explanation from the city planner or city manager, Mr. Nicholson's fine was then reduced by half. The view

achieved by this pruning will no doubt be worth the cost to Mr. Nicholson. If being a member of Tree City USA is to be meaningful at all, the city of Cannon Beach will need to take the responsibility of being vigilant to assure that tree ordinances are followed. Otherwise it will be Tree City in word but not in deed.

Diane Amos Elizabeth Lorish A thank-you from Hall of Fame Committee

The Seaside High School Hall of Fame Induction Committee consisting of Jim Auld, Tom Maltman, James Folk, Stubby Lyons, Wally Hamer, Dr. Shelia Roley, Larry Elliott, Gene Gilbertson and Donna Sunell wish to thank Gearhart Market, led by Molly Lowenberg, Teryn Law and their crew for presenting

A no-name house in a quaint village

T omehow, we must accommodate our visitors without destroying the very thing that attracts them here.

My beach house doesn't have a name.

Unlike some homes in Cannon Beach, Seaside, Gearhart and other parts of the North Coast, it isn't known as "White Sands," or "Ocean Vista" or even "Puffins Perch."

And, unlike those houses, which are all listed with either Airbnb or VRBO (Vacation Rentals By Owner), my house isn't for rent, either. Not by the night, the week nor the month.

When I spent five weeks this summer in John Day, my friend, Deborah, from Bremerton, Wash., staved at my house. She invited her own friends to visit. They had a great time.

She would send emails describing their adventures. A couple of times they drove to a marina south of Wheeler where they bought freshly caught and cooked crab and enjoyed a picnic lunch in the sun. Sometimes — before the local fire ban went into effect they built a bonfire on the beach. They visited Cannon Beach's farmers market. They shopped in Manzanita and traveled to Astoria.

In one email, Deborah, who apparently was getting tired of local streets clogged with summer's usual array of cars and visitors, wrote to me, "Now I know why you enjoy the quiet months."

At the end of her visit, she sent me another email, thanking me for letting her stay in Cannon Beach for a month. Her friends enjoyed their stay, too, and several wanted to return.

"If you ever wanted to, I know you could rent your house out," Deborah added.

It was something I had never thought about, and, frankly, never want to do. I suppose I could name my house a "Forest Fantasy" and market it as being in a quiet neighborhood three blocks from Haystack Rock in the quaint village of Cannon Reach.

There are a lot of people on the North Coast who have given plenty of thought to the idea of renting out their houses to perfect (and, as it turns out, not so perfect) strangers for hundreds of dollars a night and thousands of dollars a month.

According its website, VRBO has at least 1,359 vacation rentals on the North Coast from Neskowin to Astoria. Of those, Cannon Beach has 148; Seaside, 238; Gearhart, 82; and Astoria, 13.

The practice of renting out a house in a small town like Cannon Beach or Gearhart has proven so popular that permanent residents who live next to these houses are starting to complain.

In Gearhart, where the City Council has spent nearly two years developing an ordinance to regulate vacation rentals, the problem has pretty much gotten out of control, according to residents who must listen to the loud parties, watch the untended garbage fly out of the cans and maneuver around the numerous parked cars overflowing the streets.

Cannon Beach has strict ordinances regarding rentals, but with so many visitors in town and so many local homes being advertised on the websites, it's questionable as to whether the ordinances — especially the one restricting rentals to one reservation every 14 days on homes that aren't in the city's rental "lottery" - are being enforced.

With the popularity of vacation rentals — some allow as many as 10 people per house - come the visitors. Of course, that means opportunities for local businesses, and that's good for shops that have struggled during the slow winter months. But, sometimes, there's too much of a good thing.

One Cannon Beach business owner, who has run a popular operation for at least a decade, told me they had to cut back this summer. It wasn't because of a lack of demand; it was because they couldn't find enough employees.

It's a story I've heard many times up and down the North Coast. Finding enough staff to work the hours it takes to serve the number of customers coming into a restaurant, a store or any other establishment in this area is a challenge for most any business owner.

Why aren't there enough people to be hired? Because, in a vacation wonderland, where (VRBO) rentals average \$263 a night in Cannon Beach, \$216 in Seaside and \$257 in Gearhart, there is little housing left that people who earn an average hourly wage, or even slightly higher, can afford.

Homeowners who rent out their houses as vacation rentals say they can't afford to keep their properties without the ability to offer them up to visitors. The incentive of earning money from a house also requires owners or rental managers to maintain the house, and this reduces the number of neglected properties in a community

But the problems are occurring far more often with the increasing



By NANCY **McCARTHY**



Pretty soon the very thing that attracts visitors may disappear forever.

number of vacation rental homes on the market. I don't know what the solution is; I only know there needs to be some way to balance the need for visitors with the needs of the permanent residents, employees and businesses in our communities.

Without that balance, pretty soon the very thing that attracts those visitors — our "quaint villages" with the quiet beaches cited so often on these vacation rental sites - may disappear forever.

Nancy McCarthy is the retired editor of the Seaside Signal and Cannon Beach Gazette.

Letters from Page 4A

our food, attending to our needs during the ceremony and cleanup. They performed magnificently and above the call of duty.

We served over 200 dinners; got the tables, chairs and the Seaside High School cafetorium in good shape Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 26 and 27. The night was a complete success. Thanks to Gearhart Market leaders and crew.

The Induction Committee would also like to thank Nike. Mike Burk, Julie Nelson and their crew led the clean up department after the Seaside High School Hall of Fame induction event. During the ceremony they walked around and made sure that guests had coffee, water, etc. and worked well with Gearhart Market.

They always had a smile on their face, asked questions about what they could do next and because of their tremendous help, we were able to get out of there before 9 p.m.

Mike and Julie have done a tremendous job of teaching and coaching those young people to perform the way they did. Without them there, it would not have been the successful night that it was.

The Seaside Hall of Fame has inducted 127 individuals and 28 teams since it was started in 2001

> **Stubby Lyons** Seaside

Water problems are not limited to Cannon Beach

This letter address the twopart article "Water Rating Indicate Infrastructure Problem" by Dani Palmer that ran Sept. 29 and 30.

We are all concerned about insuring the best water quality possible in our streams and on our beaches. The Surfrider spot testing for pollution in our streams and beaches may be misleading. The City of Cannon Beach was incorporated in 1957 to build a sanitary sewerage system to replace existing septic tanks and drain fields in use.

The original 1958 system accordance with Department of Environmental Quality standards. The city was one of the first to use rubber gas-

BUSINESS DIRECTORY----

LETTERS

ket couplers throughout their system. Sewer lines were inspected during construction and tested to insure proper construction. All sewers were also water tested for exfiltration by filling the pipes to a point above the groundwater table and measuring any loss in water. All sewers constructed passed these tests.

The city regularly inspects, maintains and improves our sewer system. This is done by cleaning, visual inspection, TV cameras, infiltration detection, dye testing, etc. Having served on the Public Works committee, I know that the city continues to look for better detection methods and maintains long-term records.

A long-term data collection and study is needed. This is not just a Cannon Beach problem, but occurs throughout the Oregon coast. The City of Cannon Beach and all of us should work with Surfrider to have the Department of Environmental Services recognize the statewide coastal problem and how best to identify the real culprits. Dan Grassick, our Public Works director has used some stateof-the-art and innovative technology to investigate stream flows for human con-

tamination and would be an asset for future studies.

Les Wierson **Cannon Beach**

Correction

Information in a letter in the Gazette, Sept. 25, on spruce tree pruning should have been attributed to a submission on HubPages. The corrected letter from Diane Amos and Elizabeth Lorish is included this week.



Delightful Beer Garden • Öcean View Deck Pool Tables • Darts Full Bar (including Bill's Tavern brews) but that's not all...

Smoked Pork Ribs • Steak • Seafood

Fortunately there were no combined sewers that conveyed both storm water and wastewater in the city that sometimes led to continued stream pollution in cities like Astoria and Portland.

and additions in the north end of Cannon Beach and Tolovana Park were planned, constructed and inspected in



Dining room gets a makeover at conference center

Board asks for more windows street-side

By Dani Palmer

Cannon Beach Gazette

Thousands of visitors flock to Cannon Beach each year to spiritually recharge and retreat at the Christian Conference Center. Next year, they may be able to do so — at least at mealtime — in a brand new building.

Staff plan to start constructing a new dining hall this fall.

"This is a substantial new building replacing a smaller, old building," City Planner Mark Barnes said at Sept. 24's Design Review Board meeting

A 20,177-square-foot structure will replace the existing one built in 1948. It's "rotting" and doesn't meet current codes, Christian Center Executive Director Jeff Carlsen said.



An artist rendering of the Christian Conference Center's new dining hall.

The building is also too small for increasing crowds. "Unfortunately the dining room and kitchen have not been increased to match the times." Carlsen added.

The current hall was designed for 150 guests with a maximum capacity of 300. The new one will seat about 425.

The project is an estimated \$3.4 million, but Carlsen said volunteer labor will help cut down costs.

The "first big step" is finalizing engineering plans, he said. Construction will then proceed as money is donated.

"This is a huge project," Carlsen said. "A lot of detail is involved.'

The new building will feature four guest rooms along with a larger kitchen and dining room. It was designed to "fit in" with the Conference Center's other buildings, though it'll introduce more stone into its design, like that around the bell tower.

One of the things our guests love is what we call the bell tower," Carlsen said. "We actually have a plan to move that and bring it back into play as we do the landscaping.'

Design Review Board Chairman Mike Morgan said he'd like to see the lawn preserved, but added he understands there is limited land.

Board member Sandi Lundy said the building was designed to be beautiful on the inside without much consideration for what Cannon Beach residents will have to see on the outside. The back of the building facing town will have few windows, "like the back of a restaurant, where deliveries would take place," Lundy added.

Anything center staff "can do to break up the wall will make a big difference," Morgan said.

The board approved the design with a request for more windows.

"I think it's a well-thought-out plan," board member Todd Rowley said. "I understand your (Lundy's) concern, but I think with these renditions, it will be nice looking.'

Source of high bacteria readings in local waterways remains elusive

However, she added that

Surfrider's data is "a great

resource." The group uses the

same testing methods with

data often utilied "to inform

management decisions at

the statewide level" and tar-

get OBMP's limited testing,

arise, OBMP will often resa-

mple after a high reading or

ask the city to collect sam-

ples and issue the appropri-

ate messaging to the public,"

Cannon Beach stopped

its own water quality testing

program in July because staff

didn't find any flaws in the

said contaminants were de-

Grassick noted that he

is curious what causes high

source unrelated to humans.

to discuss health risks to both

animals and pets.

"When situations like this

Cruse said.

Chetock added.

never discovered.

inconclusive.

Groups seek to notify the public faster

By Dani Palmer Cannon Beach Gazette

With bacteria levels in local waterways remaining high, environmental groups are asking Cannon Beach officials to notify the public faster.

The Ecola Creek Watershed Council and Surfrider Foundation offered their assistance during a September work session. They also asked city officials to dig deeper for a cause as data indicates a possible problem with sewage infrastructure.

Cannon Beach has a history of high bacteria test results, especially after rain washes waterways out, but field coordinator for Surfrider's Blue Water Task Force Ryan Cruse said testers have seen "a constant pattern of high readings" since May, "with some exceptionally high and unsafe readings occurring this summer during dry weather."

People need to be warned when the levels are elevated, and infrastructure should be tested to rule out human waste as a source," Watershed Council President Mike Manzulli said.

The Watershed Council is concerned for the health of all human and pet residents and visitors, he said. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, exposure to fecal bacteria can cause symptoms such as nausea, diarrhea, stomach cramps, chills and fever. Skin rashes may also occur.

ter contamination. July's spill didn't reach marine waters, Public Works Director Dan Grassick said, so no advisory was issued.

Councilor Mike Benefield added that the city's response may not have been "satisfactory to all," but staff immediately took care of the problem, removing polluted sand and cordoning off the area.

But Manzulli said beach signage could be better. In California, for example, there are signs that clearly state contamination could be hazardous to health. "The Watershed Council would like the city to go above the state requirements and notify the public when the streams and creeks have elevated enteroccus readings," Manzulli said.

Reports to local media would be "a good way to get the word out," Manzulli said, along with email or text notifications to those who want to be alerted.

Portland officials report spills over 40 gallons to media outlets and local authorities, according to the city's Sewer Release Response Plan.

Manzulli said he has seen people of all ages and their pets play in possibly contaminated outfall water, especially at Gower Street and Chisana Creek Beach outfalls aren't the "best place to be playing," but Grassick said he too has seen it. He said signs at the outfalls provide ample warnings to the public that untreated drainage water may be contaminated with animal waste. The signs advise beach visitors to stay out of the water and to wash carefully should they do so. Cannon Beach Mayor Sam Steidel agreed that officials should work on better notifying the public. He didn't discover July's spill until he encountered Manzulli on a beach walk. "I always think about it in terms of we have thousands of visitors everyday in the summer," Grassick said. 'Making sure they're safe is a high priority for us. We don't take this lightly."

But staff also don't want to unnecessarily worry the public, he added.

High readings

The Watershed Council and Surfrider Foundation are concerned about more than the spill. Surfrider recorded six cases of high bacteria readings over the summer, including two over 3,000 organisms per 100 milliliters in August, way above the 158 organisms safety threshold. The latest high reading was recorded on Sept. 9 at 292 organisms per 100 milliliters.

The Oregon Beach Monitoring Program has the sole power to issue them through a partnership with the Department of Envrionmental Quality, and it didn't test in Cannon Beach every week.

Only one health advisory was issued this summer, according to officials.

"Surfrider uses a similar analysis method, but since their sample collectors and equipment has not been vetted by DEQ, we are unable to issue advisories from these data," OBMP Coordinator Tara Chetock said.



Collaboration

'The most frustrating aspect of all this is that the city has told the Watershed Council and general public for years that the infrastructure is fine and the problem is the seagulls, the elk and the random dirty diaper. This summer's sewage spill shows the opposite," Manzulli said. "If the city had said, 'Well it's the elk, the seagulls and maybe our infrastructure,' the city would have likely discovered that the spill alarm and pump station run off the same power source and the city could have fixed the problem years ago. The spill would have been avoided or greatly reduced in size."

He added Surfrider and the Watershed Council are eager to assist officials in making improvements. There are grants available the groups can help apply for, Manzulli said.

By the end of the work session, Steidel said the high readings were a topic the Public Works Committee should discuss and the City Council asked for an update in six months.

"We want to work with you," Manzulli told city councilors. "We want to help."



The spill

On July 20, an 11,000-gallon sewage spill in Cannon Beach led to cordoning off some of the area.

While Manzulli said not enough was done to notify the public via the city's website or media outlets, City Manager Brant Kucera said the Public Works Department followed the state's guidelines "to the letter."

The Oregon Beach Monitoring Program tests popular beaches in the summer and issues alerts when enterococcus levels are above the state safety threshold in marine waters. Enterococcus is an indicator of potential fecal mat-

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Museum, Astoria, Oregon

The Columbia River Maritime

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Super Crossword 49 Precise 111 "I - you so!" 13 Tries to buy at auction 51 S&L holding 14 Fat foot -la-la!'

a passion for food and love making people smile? Experience cooking for seniors a plus. 1 year experience or recent culinary graduate with ability to batch cook, follow recipes, line cook and short order. AM and PM shifts. Must be able to lift 50 lbs, stand for long periods of time and speak and read English. EOE Employer pa benefits upon eligibility. paid Applications at www.clatsopcare.org or at 947 Olney Astoria Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites, a Lincoln Asset Management Hotel, has an Assistant General Manager position available. Will assist and act in the place of the General Manager when they are away. Must be able to lead, train. motivate and develop others to achieve results. Committed to and ensures 100% guest satisfaction through pleasant and professional ques interactions. Responsibilities include planning, organizing and directing hotel services, marketing the property, profit management, budgets, and cost/inventory control skills. Math skills to complete required reports are essential. Two or more years of management experience required. Annual salary is \$40,000 - \$50,000 DOE; eligible for bonus after 12 months. Send resume with cover letter to LAM 5809 Jean Road Lake Oswego, Oregon 97035 Astoria School Dist 1C is seeking qualified applicants for School

Bus Drivers Visit https://astoria.tedk12.com hire/index.aspx for job description and application or Ryan Hahn, Director Transportation, 503-325-4550



Super Crossword

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Coast Happenings Calendar

YOUR GUIDE TO MUSIC, ART, COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL EVENTS UP AND DOWN THE COAST

Friday, Oct. 9

Maggie & the Cats

6:30 p.m., Sweet Basil's Café, 271 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1539, www.cafesweetbasils. com, no cover, 21 and older. Maggie and the Cats play blues, funk and rhythm-n-blues.

Texas Hold'em

7 p.m., American Legion 168, 1216 S. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2973. Cannon Beach American Legion offers a Texas Holdem poker tournament every Friday.

"Bell, Book & Candle"

7:30 p.m., Coaster Theatre, 108 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1242, www.coastertheatre. com, \$15 to \$20, PG. A bewitching love story of a modern-day witch who chooses a normal life when she falls in love with a mortal.

Saturday, Oct. 10 ID Protection Day

10 a.m., Seaside High School, 1901 N. Holladay Drive, Seaside. Pacific Alarm Systems, Wauna Credit Union and Seaside Chamber of Commerce are hosting a free ID Protection shredding event to 1 p.m.

Northwest Author Series

2 p.m., Cannon Beach Library, 131 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1391, www.cannonbeachlibrary.org, free. Author of "Crooked River" Valerie Geary will be featured.

Rotary Fundraiser

5:30 p.m., Seaside Civic and Convention Center, 415 First Ave., Seaside, 503-717-2266, \$60. The Seaside Rotary Foundation will host its annual sock hop dinner and auction. Fifties attire encouraged.

SHS Class Reunion

6 p.m., Sons of Norway Nidaros Hall, 2910 N. Hwy. 101, Seaside, 503-358-2263, \$15 to \$35. The Seaside High School class of 1965 will host a 50-year class reunion. Dress is casual, includes live music, dinner and a no host bar.

"Bell, Book & Candle"

7:30 p.m., Coaster Theatre, 108 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1242, www.coastertheatre. com, \$15 to \$20, PG.

Sunday, Oct. 11 NAMI Meeting

2 p.m., Seaside Public Library, 1131 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-6165, www.nami.org. The National Alliance on Mental Illness welcomes anyone who suffers from a mental illness. Membership is not required.

Stephen Beus

3 p.m., Coaster Theatre, 108 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1242, www.coastertheatre. com, \$15 to \$20. Stephen Beus returns to the Coaster Theatre for a special fall concert in classic piano.

Monday, Oct. 12 Knochlers Pinochle

1 p.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside, all ages, \$1 per session per person. This is a regular play card game. Prizes awarded.

Burgers & Jam

6 p.m., American Legion 168, 1216 S. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2973. The legion offers good burgers and good music weekly.

Tuesday, Oct. 13 Excel Level 3

8:30 a.m., CCC Seaside Campus, 1455 N. Roosevelt Drive, Seaside, 503-338-2402, \$15. In Level 3, Jane Francis will cover macros, charts and tables. Registration required.

City Council

5:30 p.m., Cannon Beach City Hall, 163 E. Gower St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1581, www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us. This is a work session.

Wednesday, Oct. 14

Overeaters Anonymous 3:30 p.m., Seaside Public Library, 1131 Broadway, Seaside, 503-440-4390. OA groups seek recovery through the Twelve Steps program.

Paul & Margo Dueber

5 p.m., The Bistro, 263 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2661. Paul and Margo Dueber perform original tunes, folk and Americana from the 70s and 80s.

The Coconuts

6 p.m., Sweet Basil's Café, 271 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1539, www.cafesweetbasils. com, no cover, 21 and older. The Coconuts play swing, jazz, country, bluegrass and folk.

Thursday, Oct. 15 Ham Radio Breakfast

8 a.m., Finn's Fish House, 227 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-9692. Ham radio operators meet every Thursday. Venues change the first Thursday of the month.

Medicare Updates

10 a.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside, 503-861-4202, free. Get a Grasp on Medicare provides non-bias Medicare information.

Puppy Hour

3 p.m., Sweet Basil's Café, 271 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1539, www.cafesweetbasils. com, \$5. This weekly event raises money for the Clatsop County Animal Shelter, includes wine by the glass and live music.

Dallas Williams

Writers at Work

6 p.m., Seaside Public Library, 1131 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-6742, www.seasidelibrary.org. This group is designed for writers to meet and share ideas with local authors.

Cops & Community

7 p.m., Judge Guy Boyington Building, 857 Commercial St., Astoria, 503-325-1895, www.lcdiversityproject.org, free. A panel discussion on community policing will include representatives from Astoria, Cannon Beach, Gearhart, Seaside and Warrenton police departments.

Floating Glass Balls

7 p.m., Bill's Tavern, 188 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2202, www.billstavernandbrewhouse.com, no cover. Floating Glass

Maggie & the Cats 6:30 p.m., Sweet Basil's Café, 271 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-

Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1539, www.cafesweetbasils. com, no cover, 21 and older.

Seaside Sashay

7 p.m., Seaside Civic and Convention Center, 415 First Ave., Seaside, 503-325-8109, www.hayshakers. org. Join the Hayshaker Square Dance Club at its annual Seaside Sashay Square Dance Festival. Registration begins at 5 p.m. and Saturday's event includes a craft fair.

Texas Hold'em

7 p.m., American Legion 168, 1216 S. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2973.

"Bell, Book & Candle" 7:30 p.m., Coaster Theatre, 108 N.

Brush those fangs or you'll have MONSTROUS teeth!

First-year students from the OHSU School of Dentistry took some time in retreat at Cannon Beach Oct 1-2 to reflect on professionalism and ethics in their new profession. In addition to lectures and small-group discussions, a sand-sculpting competition encouraged the students to use their team-building, communication and hand-skills in a creative exercise that celebrated a "Halloween" theme.



Members of the Broadway Group Practice creating a vampire pumpkin, complete with braces.

Balls plays bluegrass, Caribbean, folk, swing and country.

"Bell, Book & Candle"

7:30 p.m., Coaster Theatre, 108 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1242, www.coastertheatre. com, \$15 to \$20, PG.

Friday, Oct. 16 GolfTourney

1 p.m., Gearhart Golf Links, 1157 N. Marion Ave., Gearhart, 503-738Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1242, www.coastertheatre. com, \$15 to \$20, PG.

Saturday, Oct. 17 Beach Dog Show

After high tide, Surfsand Resort, 148 W. Gower St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-8001, all ages. The 18th annual Dog Show on the Beach is a fun day with your pooch. Proceeds benefit the Clatsop County Animal Shelter.

Written in the Sand

11 a.m., Beach Books, 616 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-3500, www. beachbooks37.com. Join Beach Books for its 4th annual author event featuring 18 Oregon authors followed by the book launch of "Oregon Pacific" by Nancy Slavin.

Chowder Cook-off

1:30 p.m., American Legion 168, 1216 S. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2973, \$20 entry fee, 21 and older. The American Legion will host a Great Chowder Cook-off with a New England clam chowder competition. Set up at noon, judging at 3 p.m.

"Bell, Book & Candle"

7:30 p.m., Coaster Theatre, 108 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1242, www.coastertheatre. com, \$15 to \$20, PG.

Sunday, Oct. 18 "Bell, Book & Candle"

3 p.m., Coaster Theatre, 108 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1242, www.coastertheatre. com, \$15 to \$20, PG.

Evensong

6 p.m., Cannon Beach Community Church, 132 E. Washington St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1222. Evensong features performers Jennifer Goodenberger and Wes Wahrmund, meditative songs and quiet reflection.

Monday, Oct. 19 Knochlers Pinochle

1 p.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside, all ages, \$1 per session per person.

Burgers & Jam

6 p.m., American Legion 168, 1216 S. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2973.

Wednesday, Oct. 21

Garden Club Meeting Noon, Tolovana Hall, 3779 S. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach. Attendees should bring their own lunch; coffee, tea and dessert are provided. Annual dues are \$5 and guests can attend one meeting without joining.

Overeaters Anonymous

3:30 p.m., Seaside Public Library, 1131 Broadway, Seaside, 503-440-4390.

Paul & Margo Dueber

5 p.m., The Bistro, 263 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2661.

Business After Hours

5:30 p.m., Acupuncture & Natural Medicine Clinic, 1355 S. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503- 436-2623. Sponsored by the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce, Business After Hours provides a social networking opportunity for business owners to meet and mingle.

The Coconuts

6 p.m., Sweet Basil's Café, 271 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1539, www.cafesweetbasils. com, no cover, 21 and older.

Cannon Beach Reads

7 p.m., Cannon Beach Library, 131 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1391, www.cannonbeachlibrary.org. This month's selection is "Frog Music" by Emma Donoghue.

Thursday, Oct. 22

Ham Radio Breakfast 8 a.m., Finn's Fish House, 227 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-9692.

3 p.m., Sweet Basil's Café, 271 N.

Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-

6 p.m., Sweet Basil's Café, 271 N.

Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-

436-1539, www.cafesweetbasils.

7 p.m., Seaside Public Library,

1131 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-

6742, free. Melissa Eskue Ousley

will talk about monster myths of

the Pacific Northwest and will read

from her upcoming novel "Sunset

7 p.m., Bill's Tavern, 188 N. Hem-

lock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-

2202, www.billstavernandbrew-

10 a.m., Seaview Manor, 135 12th

Ave., Seaside. Seaview Manor will

host its annual two-day bazaar, fea-

turing artwork by Bree. Proceeds

5 p.m., Loft at the Red Building, 20

Basin St., Astoria, 503-738-9126,

\$10 to \$250. Join North Coast Land

Conservancy as it celebrates coast-

al conservation and the release of

the book "The Wild Edge: Free-

dom to Roam the Pacific Coast"

by Florian Schultz. Advance tickets

6:30 p.m., Sweet Basil's Café, 271 N.

Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-

7 p.m., American Legion 168, 1216

S. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach,

com, no cover, 21 and older.

www.cafesweetbasils.

com, no cover, 21 and older.

Author Presentation

Floating Glass Balls

house.com, no cover.

Friday, Oct. 23

to benefit The Harbor.

NCLC Gala

recommended.

436-1539,

Texas Hold'em

503-436-2973.

Maggie & the Cats

Benefit Bazaar

www.cafesweetbasils.

Puppy Hour

436-1539,

Dallas Williams

com, \$5.

Empire."

6 p.m., Sweet Basil's Café, 271 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1539, www.cafesweetbasils. com, no cover, 21 and older. Dallas Williams plays folk music and Americana. 3538, www.gearhartgolflinks.com, \$50 to \$60, 21 and older. Pull out the football jerseys, hockey sweaters, baseball shirts and basketball tank tops for the "Team Pride" tournament.

Seaside Sashay

10 a.m., Seaside Civic and Convention Center, 415 First Ave., Seaside, 503-325-8109, www.hayshakers. org.

"Bell, Book & Candle"

7:30 p.m., Coaster Theatre, 108 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1242, www.coastertheatre. com, \$15 to \$20, PG.



'Prayers are answered' **Beloved dog Pearl found, returned to family**

A social media campaign ended happily with sighting in Cannon Beach

By Dani Palmer Cannon Beach Gazette

Cannon Beach residents proved just how dog-friendly they are when they helped Portlander Krista Labavitch find her dog, Pearl, after a weeklong search last month.

Pearl, a 7-year-old Bernese Mountain Dog, went missing on Thursday, Sept. 24. Someone tried to pet the skittish dog from behind and "she just bolted," Labavitch said, pulling the leash from Labavitch's daughter's grip.

Construction workers tried to catch Pearl, but lost sight of her on South Hemlock Street. Krista Labavitch then traveled to Cannon Beach to search for her, going home after finding "no sign of her."

She encountered Kate Pickford with Clatsop Animal Assistance when she came back on Friday, who volunteered her time to search and posted Pearl's

photo and information on the organization's Facebook page. It resonated with people.

"We reached up to 30,000 people in the area," Pickford said. "It was one of the most active posts on our page.'

Locals quickly shared the post and wrote they were keeping an eye out for Pearl.

On Saturday, Labavitch got a call from Cannon Beach police that the dog had been spotted at Les Shirley and later near the place she'd disappeared from. They tried to catch her, but she again took off.

"The police were awesome," Labavitch said. "They kept in contact with us, and they were very kind. They treated Pearl like a person, not a dog."

She and her friend, Sandee Sanders, searched all day Saturday and Sunday with no luck. Locals Margo and Fred Silvester offered them a place to stay while they did so, and Pickford continued to post updates on Facebook.

Labavitch took time off from work to search and tried to stay positive, but it was hard at times.

"Pearl is a member of our family," she said. "They're not just pets, they're family.'



Pearl, after being returned to her owners.

On Tuesday morning, Labavitch got a call Pearl had been seen near Hug Point. They looked there, then moved onto Arch Cape.

Around 7:30 a.m., the family got a call from Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Court Carrier. He'd taken the initial call from the Labavitchs — who were

frantic, like he would be as a dog owner himself, he admitted — and recognized the dog from her trailing leash as she crossed Highway 101.

He stopped and called to her, as did another passerby, but Pearl "jetted into the South Wind site."

A while later, Labavitch walked up the logging road Carrier had spotted Pearl

SUBMITTED PHOTO/CANNON BEACH

on with her shih tzu, Navarre, and called for the Bernese mountain dog.

"I sat down and I just prayed," she said. "I heard some rustling in the bushes, looked over and she came out to us."

Pickford said they believe Pearl was tracking Krista, and that she'd hid during the day and moved at night.

Labavitch gave her food along with fresh water. Her husband, Fred, a veterinarian in Portland, looked Pearl over

The dog had lost nine pounds, but was fine, overall.

It was a happy ending after an abundance of worry. At one point, someone had suggested the family contact the Oregon Department of Transportation in case a dog was found hit on the road.

"It's been a horrible experience but also a wonderful experience," Krista La-bavitch said. "The people in Cannon Beach were great, very nice and friendly.'

Business owners allowed the family to put up flyers. Carrier put notice of the missing dog in the Chamber's newsletter, on the counter in the Visitor Center and contacted police, who also shared posts Facebook. Pickford on called it a team effort.

Fred Labavitch has had his Sunset Animal Clinic veterinary practice for 42 years. In that time he has encountered people who have lost their dogs, but has never been in the situation himself. "Cannon Beach should be proud of itself," he said. "I just felt so good about how it was handled.'

Bridge collapse could hinder evacuation

Bridges from Page 1A

OBEC Consulting Engineers conducted a bridge study in 2011, warning the Ecola Creek existing bridge is "vulnerable to failure" even in a "relatively small earthquake" because of its age and construction.

'The shortest evacuation route for the north downtown area is across Ecola Creek and up Fir Street to reach elevations above predicted maximum tsunami wave heights," the report states. "Currently, evacuation by this route can be completed in approximately five minutes by using the North Elm Avenue/First



Cars cross the bridge over Ecola Creek coming from the north.

to higher ground as a tsunami approaches or it could be a "fatal funnel" leading to a crossing "over the jaws of death," according to a consultant in 2012, the time of the report's release.

In its 2011 report, OBEC reviewed several bridge op-



The bridge that crossed Elk Creek on the north side of Cannon Beach collapsed during the 1964 tsunami. The school's gym is visible on the south side of the creek, as well as students from Cannon Beach Elementary School lined up to

Not alone: It takes a village to battle leukemia

Leukemia from Page 1A

Isair now receives a blood count and treatment in Portland every Tuesday and has a 90 percent chance of recovery. Since his diagnosis, the Leon-Mejias have spoken with a child specialist who told them not to hide anything from the boy.

They've also alerted his teachers of what's going on. Isair can go to school, but he can't be as physically active with a tube inserted to help clean his blood.

It hurts sometimes, Isair gets tired quicker and his hair is staring to fall out, but he finally got his appetite back. "Every now and then it's too much for him," Julie said, but Isair's siblings have helped make life seem as it did before. Isair's older sister, Mariliz, 7, also knows what's going on and watches out for him. Since the ordeal, Julie noted they've learned just how common leukemia is among youth. It's the most common cancer in children and teens, according to the American Cancer Society. They want to use their experience to help other families better understand the signs. Taylen, of Wheeler, passed out at home in August. He was rushed to a nearby Urgent Care, then

to Providence Seaside Hospital and later Doernbecher's, where he too was diagnosed with leukemia.

He, like Isair, will need three years of chemotherapy in Portland, Gadelhak said.

Donations for "Tough Taylen" may be made online at www.gofundme. com/toughtaylen or to an account in his name at U.S. Bank.

Donations for Isair may be made at www.gofundme.com/loveforisair or by depositing a check into an account titled the "Isair Leon-Mejia Benefit Fund at Wells Farge Bank.

Street Bridge. However, it is unlikely that this bridge will withstand a large earthquake or tsunami."

Chairwoman Karolyn Adamson said a bridge replacement is the best option. "That is my preference because it serves multiple purposes," she said.

"There's not a jam of 500 people trying to get across the pedestrian bridge."

According to the 2011 study, replacement of the existing bridge would cost \$4.8 million while a six-foot wide pedestrian bridge could cost up to \$1.6 million.

A proposed pedestrian bridge over Ecola Creek could either be a way for people to quickly evacuate

tions for the creek on the north side of Cannon Beach, which would quickly lead to higher ground and away from a tsunami. Among those options was a fixed timber bridge with a 6-footwide deck and steel pile foundations. The estimated cost was \$1.05 million.

Another study issued in 2011 by an OSU engineering professor who made computer models of potential evacuation routes in the city, estimated that, on a typical summer day in Cannon Beach, at least 1,080 people would head toward the bridge after the earthquake.

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Stacy Burr suggested the committee go

look at what remained of the bridge's footings.

for a pre-disaster mitigation grant, sharing costs with the Federal Emergency Management Agency. FEMA would pay 75 percent of the bridge cost and the city would bear the rest. The grant is competitive among cities nationwide, Burr said, adding national politicians do not always approve project money each year.

Before applying for such a grant, the city needs to decide on which route it wants to take.

Burr advised the committee work together to offer options to City and Emergency Manager Brant Kucera, who would decide what to present to the City Council. She added that Cannon Beach would need to do another bridge study on the best option, costing up to \$30,000.

Wierson suggested taking a closer look at Washington's bridge standards as they're designed to withstand earthquakes. He also recommended flashing beach signs to further improve the city's disaster preparedness. Cannon Beach is waiting to hear back now on a grant for beach kiosks.

Burr said they would offer emergency information and be designed by local artists. Preparedness talks continue this month.

Employees at Escape Lodging in Cannon Beach started Isair's GoFundMe page, and invited the community to help.

'The tyranny of illness doesn't need to be made harder by the compounding effects of lost wages, frequent treatments requiring travel, and the costs of moving," they said

The family is looking for a new place to live as Isair needs a mold-free environment.

The Leon-Mejia family also wants to give back after all the assistance they have received. Julie said they are collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House and encourage others to do the same.

Board says developer meets zoning code

Development from Page 1A

in December 2014, the Cannon Beach City Council reviewed the application. In February, the council voted to tentatively approve the application. In early March, councilors voted to adopt the findings by a 4-1 vote.

A group of local citizens — Jeff Harrison, Cleve Rooper, Dale Hintz, Linda Hintz, Elizabeth Lorish, Jane Emrick, Diane Amos, Rex Amos, Mindy Hardwick and Robin Risley - challenged the decision in a brief before the Land Use Board of Appeals. Many in the group were neighbors to the property at 532 N. Laurel St. where the development would take place.

They said the city failed to comply with timing requirements for notices, made mistaken references to the Design Review Board and improperly closed council hearings to new evidence.

In their decision, the three-member appeals board acknowledged the Feb. 10 City Council hearing "contained some errors," but wrote that the mistakes did not rise to the level of a procedural error that would have caused the petitioners to "fail to prepare for and submit their case to the



ERICK BENGEL PHOTO/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

A home currently located on the .57acre property owned by Jeff Nicholson. A Land Use Board of Appeals ruling gives an OK to his four-home subdivision plan.

City Council.'

The appeals board concluded Nicholson's plans for his 24,800-squarefoot property met the allowable density for the city's residential zone. The R-2 zone's minimum density for the subject property is one dwelling per 5,000 square feet.

The petition raised largely a number of procedural concerns, and a number of procedural concerns that were not raised by the petitioners in the local decision," Rasmussen said. "LUBA found that the process used by the city followed all the state laws and local laws, and approved the decision."

Nicholson does not have immediate building plans, but the decision opens the way for four houses on the property, Rasmussen said.

Plans must conform to those submitted, "so the neighbors can be assured we won't be building up to their property line," Rasmussen said.

Other conditions include repair of any potential damage to Laurel Street during the construction process and a shared access driveway between the four homes.

A certified arborist will examine spruce trees, and within a year of the preliminary approval, the final plan will be submitted to show utilities to the houses. Only one driveway will access Laurel Street.

An attorney for the neighbors did not return a call requesting comment and city officials also declined to comment.

With the appeals board decision, plans for the subdivision are ready to move forward, Rasmussen said.

"We need to have a conversation with the city," he said. "The applicant would like to move forward as soon as we can with the next step."

Local artist Steidel to sign his first children's book

The senior artist from Cannon Beach, William Steidel, will present his first published children's book, "Whose Move," a story about a boy and a dragon. Steidel will be

signing books Saturday, Oct. 10, from 10 a.m. on. An edition of hand embellished hard-back books limited to 100 will be available. For information call 503-436-1757.



Art by William Steidel.

Pelican coming

Pelican from Page 1A

what a great community Cannon Beach is to be involved in," Pelican CEO Jim Prinzing said. "We're extremely excited to be apart of the community, to hopefully build more business here, bring more folks during the off-season and help build the Cannon Beach community as much as we build our brand."

Co-owner Jim Schons and brewmaster Darron Welch joined Jones and Prinzing for the ceremonial groundbreaking, introducing building designer David Vonada of Tolovana Architects and Cannon Beach builder Keeley O'Brien of O'Brien and Co.

The South Hemlock Street site will feature brewery tours and a menu similar to Pacific City's. Newman, owner of Newmans at 988, was recently named Pelican's new corporate chef and will develop menu creations at all three locations. He said Pelican Brewing Co. "set the table for us" — he was one of the company's first chefs in 1996 — so he's looking forward to working with them again. He expects a "great atmosphere" for guests.

The restaurant will be about 75,000-squarefeet, seating 160 inside and 40 outside, with a 600-square-foot brewery attached, Prinzing said.

Walls on the brewery side will give visitors a peek at operations. The building's final design allowed the company to upgrade from a seven- to a 10-barrel system, producing up to 800 barrels of beer per year. "Most of the beer made here will be consumed here," he said.

The brewery will be primarily utilized for research and development, including collaboration with local brewers such as Buoy Beer Co., Fort George Brewery and Seaside Brewing Co. to produce "some Cannon Beach-only beers," Prinzing said.

Production of core brands, such as Kiwanda Cream Ale and Tsunami Stout, will remain at Tillamook.

Pelican also acquired the Sunset Inn that sits next door. Prinzing said they're exploring the possibility of making it a "Pelican's Nest" with pelican-themed rooms and a "beer-centric hotel experience," similar to that of the Dogfish Inn in Delaware, but "unique and different."

The brewpub is hiring managers now, to be trained in Pacific City over the winter, and will seek the rest of its staff six to eight weeks ahead of opening, which is planned for sprint.

During peak season, they expect to have a staff of about 60 to 70, Prinzing said. In the off-season, there will be 40 to 50 employees.

Mayor Sam Steidel recalled a time — long before Dooger's — when the site of the Pelican Brewery was a "50-cent hamburger joint" as he welcomed the new business.

"We always wear our Pelican gear when we're in town," Prinzing said. "People roll down their windows and ask us when we're opening, and yell things across the street. It's just awesome."

Lumberyard goes 'Public' as new brewery heads for Cannon Beach

Local brew scene to get a new addition at former Lumberyard site

By Dani Palmer Cannon Beach Gazette

The beer scene in Cannon Beach is brewing new businesses. Ryan Snyder, owner of the Lumberyard Rotisserie and Grill, announced last week that he's transforming the restaurant into Public Coast Brewing Company, slated to open in February 2016.

"Twenty-two years ago, I was living in Las Vegas running taps in the back bar of Holy Cow Brewery for entrepreneur and Vegas legend Tom Wisner," Snyder said. "The aroma of hops, the bright tanks and the buzz of a brewery in action left an indelible mark on me and I decided one day I'd open a brewery. Public Coast Brewing is the culmination of that lifelong dream."

Snyder unveiled his plans for the restaurant and brewery, to be located at 264 E. Third Street, just days after Pelican Brewing Company held a groundbreaking ceremony at its new Cannon Beach location on Sunset Boulevard.

The Lumberyard Brewing Company already exists in Arizona, so Snyder came up with a new name. Public Coast Brewing celebrates Oregon's 363 miles of public coastline, as decreed by legislature in 1967.

"As one of the only true public coastlines in America, the Oregon coast is open to everyone, and the people are warm and inviting," said Snyder, who also serves as Martin Hospitality's president. "I wanted to build a brewery that reflects that same welcoming spirit, and make craft beer that's both delicious and approachable."



The Lumberyard Rotisserie and Grill is closed for renovations. The restaurant will reopen in February as Public Coast Brewing.

Public Coast Brewing will collaborate with "craft beer pioneer" Fred Bowman, founder of Portland Brewing Company, and Big Dog Brewing Company, based in Las Vegas, to produce seven of its own craft beers with a 10-barrel brewing system — producing up to 800 barrels per year.

Public Coast Brewing is aiming to distribute bottles or cans on the North Coast by late 2016. They plan to brew root beer on-site and serve five rotating beers from brewery partners.

Relationships are already strong with local breweries Fort George and Buoy Brewing Company, Snyder said, and he knows "one of the guys with Seaside Brewing."

Pelican Brewing Co.'s owners Mary Jones and Jeff Schons, are longtime acquaintances, he added.

Martin Hospitality Chef Will Leroux will serve as brewmaster and oversee beer recipes and production. The plan is to "marry locally found ingredients with Northwest hops for a delicious new taste," according to Martin Hospitality. A new menu "perfectly paired" with the beers will be introduced in February 2016, along with counter-style ordering. Offerings will include seasonal fish and chips, burgers, vegetarian options and more.

"We are truly blessed with major investments being made in craft brewing and the restaurant business here in Cannon Beach," Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Court Carrier said.

He called food and beverage a "nucleus" for the city, adding that Martin Hospitality has hugely benefited Cannon Beach as its oldest and largest employer.

Public Coast and Pelican's arrivals provide "a remarkable opportunity for Cannon Beach to delve into a new market and demographic, Carrier said.

He expects the new breweries will draw younger crowds — the average Cannon Beach visitor is retirement age — and those interested in the brewing scene.

Architect Mike Skidmore designed a Northwest theme "evoking where forest and sea come together" for the new brewery, according to owners. Features will include a wraparound bar, large windows to view beer brewing operations and an outside dining patio.

The Lumberyard, purchased by Ryan and Stephanie Snyder in 2004 as part of the Martin Hospitality family of properties, will close Oct. 3 to undergo the five-month renovation.

The location served as a lumber company until Ken Clark turned it into Clark's Restaurant. Hence the Lumberyard name when the Snyder's took over.

Ryan Snyder said the restaurant's history "will be encapsulated in the historical references on the inside."

"From the beginning, my vision for The Lumberyard was to transform the restaurant into a brewery that local residents and visitors to the Oregon Coast could enjoy," he said.

"We're excited to move forward with a project that's been a lifelong dream for me. We look forward to offering a unique new venue on the North Coast, and leaving our mark on Oregon's respected beer culture."



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