



'A COMRADE FALLEN'



Jason Goodding

Jason Goodding remembered in Cannon Beach as co-worker, friend

By Lyra Fontaine
Cannon Beach Gazette

Before the memorial service for fallen Seaside police Sgt. Jason Goodding at the Seaside Convention Center Friday, the American Legion Post 168 in Cannon Beach will join the Seaside American Legion, police departments and other

members of the law enforcement community in a procession that will wind through Seaside streets.

"A comrade in uniform has fallen in the line of duty," Cannon Beach Post Commander Dan O'Reilly said. "He heroically performed his sworn oath until the end. His sacrifice must never be forgotten."

O'Reilly's son, Michael, a police commander in Kent, Washington, will attend the service representing the Kent Police Department.

"It takes your breath away," he said of the shooting. "This really hits close to me."

When Sgt. Jason Goodding joined the Seaside Police Department,

he was one of the first recruits to train under Jason Schermerhorn, who was then a corporal officer with the department. The two men met soon after Goodding moved to town, and their wives became fast friends.

Schermerhorn, now the Cannon Beach police chief, worked with Goodding all 13 years, 10 of those years in the Seaside Police Department.

Goodding was shot while on duty by Philip Ferry on Friday night. He died Saturday morning, and hundreds of people gathered to mourn the officer at a candlelight vigil Sunday.

"All of us were his friend and co-workers," he said during a critical

debrief on Monday. "I know we've been putting in a lot of long hours."

Schermerhorn was one of the Cannon Beach officers who responded to the scene of the shooting. He has been assigned family liaison.

"It's certainly a huge loss for the law enforcement community, and for all of our families," he said. "He was a big family man. He was a great volunteer for his daughters and other girls with basketball."

Goodding's family, friends and colleagues could always rely on him, Schermerhorn said. "And he just had a great sense of humor."

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RESTAURANT'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY

CHEF LOOKS AHEAD

John Newman is chef, mentor and more

By Lyra Fontaine
Cannon Beach Gazette

Ten years ago, John Newman watched "Big Night," and said to his wife, Sandy, "We're going to do an anniversary dinner themed around that."

Every year for the past decade, the couple has celebrated the anniversary of their

Cannon Beach restaurant, Newmans at 988, by recreating the dinner in the film, down to the "timpano" pasta dish the characters make.

In the movie, two Italian brothers cook an elaborate meal in hopes that their restaurant will achieve success. It's safe to say that Newmans at 988, with its French-Italian cuisine and intimate dining atmosphere, has already done just that.

At its 10th anniversary dinner on Fri-

day, 40 guests enjoyed a six-course meal of soup, risotto, fish, porchetta, dessert, and carefully selected Italian wines. Wine glasses and roses lined the white tablecloths.

With a changing prix fixe menu and dishes like lobster ravioli and duck breast, Newmans at 988 was named best restaurant in its first year by The Daily Astorian, and has been on The Oregonian "top 10" restaurant lists in the past few years.

"I'm very fortunate," said Newman, who considers the restaurant a place where guests can relax and enjoy

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John Newman spruces up in front of his Cannon Beach restaurant.

LYRA FONTAINE PHOTO/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

Fire chief amends suit, ups damages

Records request yields warnings from Fire District

By R.J. Marx
Cannon Beach Gazette

The former fire chief in Cannon Beach filed new papers in his lawsuit against the Cannon Beach Rural Fire Protection District.

An amended complaint ups the damages former Chief Michael Balzer seeks to more than \$677,000 and asks for the reinstatement of his employment benefits.

Balzer also asks the court for relief "from further retaliation or harassment" after his firing in October.

Balzer was fire chief from January 2012 until Oct. 12, 2015, when the board voted 4-1 for his discharge. Balzer's original contract term ran until June 30, 2017.

In the amended complaint filed in Clatsop County Circuit Court Monday, Balzer said the fire district's board retaliated against him because of critical comments made by his wife on social media. The firing was motivated by "personal animus," the amended complaint states, and "did not constitute the good faith sufficient cause under the employment agreement."

According to the amended complaint, Balzer was "unwilling and unable to restrict his wife from speaking her mind, despite the threat that he could be discharged if she continued to express her opinions."

The complaint states it is against public policy for a public body like the fire district board to fire an employee "for his inability to restrain his spouse's speech, particularly when the expressions are criticisms of public officials."

Performance review shows warnings

Board directors described the firing as "strictly business, not personal."

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HAPPY Valentine's DAY



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SUBMITTED PHOTO/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

Students at the 2015 yoga festival.

Sixth annual yoga festival has new classes, extra day

'Exceptional teaching' in a pristine place

By Lyra Fontaine
Cannon Beach Gazette

The sixth Cannon Beach Yoga Festival will be the longest yet, from Friday, Feb. 26 through Monday, Feb. 29. This is because Monday falls on a leap year, which founder and director Christen Allsop says is "auspicious."

Notable new events include an Indian dance workshop and party, a gemstone healing intensive, and a marketing class for yoga professionals.

Cannon Beach Yoga Festival is different

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