

# Tolovana troubleshooter is one to call in a pinch

*Johnston is the new computer techie in town*

By Lyra Fontaine  
Cannon Beach Gazette

Keeping up with system updates, spotty Internet or cell service, overwhelming amounts of junk emails, and social media platforms can be headache-inducing, even for the computer-savvy.

Patrick Johnston hopes to help computer systems run more efficiently in Cannon Beach and the rest of the North Coast with his new business, Tolovana Tech, which opened in late January.

"It seemed like there was a need here with the many hotels and the lack of mobile tech support," he said.

Johnston's expertise is in Apple and Microsoft products and operating systems, Internet connectivity and troubleshooting, hospitality e-commerce websites, and helping people navigate hardware or software customer support.

He recently moved to Cannon Beach from Salt Lake City with his 10-year-old daughter, Lillian.

## Full-time single parent

As a full-time single parent, he enjoys living close to family again. His father, David Vonada, is an architect in Tolovana.

Johnston, who grew up in Portland before moving to Utah, is happy to return to his Oregon roots. He recalls spending summers in Cannon Beach as a child.

"It's a beautiful area, with

the air and the water," he said. "My daughter is ecstatic to be here."

With a background in hospitality management, Johnston enjoys interacting with customers and providing customer service. In Utah, he spent 16 years as a general manager at major hotel groups. He also worked at Comcast for several years, providing tech support.

Johnston's various services include troubleshooting modem problems, upgrading hotel property management systems, adding system software and assisting with hospitality revenue management. He has helped several businesses set up their Facebook pages, and is working on installing a receiver for a zone on Elk Creek Road that lacks cellular service.

## Email upgrades

Johnston even helps customers upgrade their email in-boxes by clearing out thousands of unwanted junk mails, which reduce the number of potential emails that could contain scams.

He also provided audio-visual support during the streaming broadcast of Seaside Police Sgt. Jason Gooding's funeral at the Coaster Theatre, and is the newest member of the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce.

When not troubleshooting technological issues, Johnston likes to spend time with Lillian. They enjoy mountain biking together.

He's excited for the many opportunities to "pay it forward" in Cannon Beach, whether by supporting the arts or cleaning up the beach.

## Tech tips from Patrick Johnston

• Generally, people who regularly use their computers will have to replace them every four to five years.

• Don't sell your computer short if it's not working well. It could be an easy-to-fix problem with your cable modem, system updates or memory.

• Consider donating your old computer to a school or library.

• Clear out your email inbox frequently by unsubscribing to unwanted mail.

• When prompted to change your password, change it twice for extra security.

• Keep track of your passwords with secure phone apps.



# 'Too soon' to know if reserves are working, says ODFW scientist

Cape from Page 1A

attended the two-day Oregon Marine Reserves Summit at the Cannon Beach Surfside Resort on Feb. 24 and 25.

Smith led a hike to view Devil's Cauldron on Oswald West State Park, which is adjacent to the Cape Falcon Marine Reserve. The hike offered dramatic views of steep cliffs, fierce waves, and spots for bird and whale watching. Visitors can kayak, walk on Short Sands Beach, and experience marine life, such as rockfish species, crab, invertebrates, anemone and kelp.

More than 20 seabird colonies are found in the area, including common murre, black oystercatchers, marbled murrelets and bald eagles.

The coastal headlands are where the Columbia River used to be, Smith said. The headlands are uplifted because the area is on a subduction zone that was formerly at sea level.

"Oswald West State Park

is the gateway to the marine reserve," Smith said. "Cape Falcon unites land and marine conservation."

Joe Liebbezeit, of the Audubon Society of Portland, identified about 100 common murre and a bald eagle seen through his telescope.

Karen Driscoll, who volunteers at Newport's Otter Rock Marine Reserve, found Cape Falcon particularly "outstanding" because of its diversity.

"This is spectacular," she said. "It has some of everything — grasslands, forests, rocky headwaters."

## Research, tourism opportunities

It is "too soon" to know if reserves are working, said Britany Huntington, an Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife scientist. Researchers will continue to refine methods, report findings, expand partnerships and increase student involvement through under-

graduate research programs, she said.

Kirsten Grorud-Colvert, from Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans, discussed global trends in marine reserves that provide insight on what happens when we protect ocean areas, and how they can be better protected.

The Science of Marine Reserves Project is an international effort of collecting data from marine reserves across the globe. The study found that within 124 marine reserves, the mass of animals and plants increased 446 percent on average, the number of animals and plants in an area increased 166 percent, and animals' body sizes increased 28 percent, and the number of species increased 21 percent. Heavily fished species increased most dramatically.

At 12.4 square miles, Cape Falcon is the second-largest of Oregon's five marine reserves, where ocean development and

removing sea life are prohibited. Connected to the reserve are two 7.6-mile Marine Protected Areas, where some fishing activities are allowed.

The state's protection of ocean areas was the result of a 15-year effort involving support from local and state governments, residents, the fishing community and other groups.

Anne Nelson, with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, discussed the ecological and economic value of marine reserves, which can encourage sustainable tourism. Visitors travel to the Great Barrier Reef specifically because of the careful decisions made by governments to protect and manage ocean areas, she said.

"We have this unbelievably beautiful resource that people want to see," Nelson said of Oregon's marine reserves. "How can we let people in, but still make sure areas are protected?"



Employees from Mo's Cannon Beach location hit Portland to celebrate Mo's 70th anniversary.

## Mo's restaurant hits the road for 70th anniversary celebration

Mo's restaurant celebrated its 70th anniversary Feb. 25 by sending crews out to give away chowder from Portland to Eugene.

"It's really exciting to have been around for so long," said Billie Jo Edmonds, assistant manager for the Cannon Beach location. "As much as we can, we like to donate to fun things in the neighborhood."

Mo's, which began operations in Newport, sent out 10 crews from its seven locations to give out free chowder in

Portland, Eugene, Salem and Corvallis until they ran out.

Two teams from Mo's Cannon Beach gave away chowder in Portland at the light rail station near Lloyd Center and the Skidmore Foundation in downtown.

Other crews visited University of Oregon and Oregon State University campuses, the Portland airport, and attended a Blazers game at the MODA Center, where they got in their Mo's gear, had a flash mob, and gave away chowder in honor of their anniversary.

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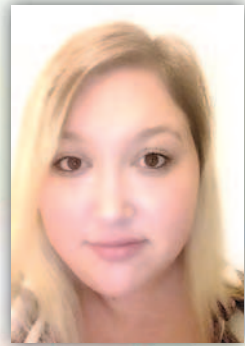
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