

Places remain in Cannon Beach, despite the storms

Cannon Beach, once known as Elk Creek or Ecola Creek, has had its name shift like sand along the shore. Though the name has changed, the reason people visit here has not. The sandy shore, the summer sun, and even the famous winter storms.

Visitors also love the unique locations and cuisine. How many remember restaurants like the Round Table Restaurant, or the Whaler, or even the Log Cabin? Many of us lament the loss of our favorite places, but have watched as new businesses have arisen from the ashes. It is said that change is the only constant and that surely is the case in Cannon Beach.

However, there are places. Places that remain despite storms, the 1964 tsunami, and the change of owners.

REFLECTIONS

ELAINE TRUCKE



Places like the Wavecrest, the Cannon Beach Hotel, Bill's Tavern, and the Ecola Inn. Each is unique in their staying power.

The Ecola Inn was built in 1913 by August and Roy Becker. The Beckers were assisted by the likes of Frank Madden, Paul Bartels, John Brallier and Mr. Prosser. In an interview conducted by the Cannon Beach Historical Society in 1976, Bartels said that the Beckers paid him \$2 a day and carpenters \$4. Bartels was commissioned to construct a beach stone fireplace that he became so famous for. The property stayed

in the family until 1931.

Old hotel brochures indicate that The Ecola Inn was open year round and that rooms contained two twin beds with a private bath. Rooms cost \$2.50 to \$3.50 per night, or \$15 a week to rent a two-room apartment.

Over the years The Ecola Inn became a social gathering spot and was known for its ping-pong tournaments. The inn was also known for Loleta, the famous and rather rude pet parrot from South America. Not much has been written about Loleta, but it has been presumed that by 1948 she was long gone from the Inn. The hotel also offered a bike service where visitors could rent bicycles and ride them along the beach. Even though everyone used the beach as a highway at that time, it was only

accessible when there was a creek nearby with a constant flow of water, which kept the sand hard enough for cars to drive on. Ecola Inn was one of the few spots that had a connecting ramp for cars or bicycles to use.

The hotel also featured a drug store that was connected to the south side of the building called Roth Drug Store. A man named Mr. Arnold was in charge of the pharmacy. A graduate in Pharmacy, he had more than 42 of experience in the drug store business in Chicago, Nebraska, Montana, Washington — with 25 of those years in Portland.

By the late 1930s, an extension was added onto the south side of the inn next to the drug store where were meals served. The restaurant was owned and operated by the Stevens family. Although

they didn't arrive at Cannon Beach until the late 1930s, they began serving the public with seafood in 1903. The restaurant went through several names (Ecola Sea Food Inn and Ecola Tavern) until it ended up being named the Ecola Restaurant. Breakfast was 20 cents, lunch was between 35 and 50 cents, dinner was 75 cents, an entire pie was 75 cents, and a seven-course meal was a \$1! The restaurant was expanded and remodeled in the beginning of 1951, but was closed down

in the fall of 1976 to make way for a new and updated Ecola Inn.

The conversion of the motel that you see today began in 1976, and was officially back open for business in the summer of 1981 with just 13 oceanfront rooms. Several generations have grown up at the Ecola Inn and continue to bring their families. The hotel continues to remain unique with a balance of nostalgia and modern needs, and the history of this place remains the same.

What's missing from the library? You!

Anybody strolling past the Cannon Beach Library since the January windstorms may have noted the absence of a conspicuous landmark — our outdoor sign, which failed to survive one of the stronger gusts! It's taken up temporary residence indoors, and our plan is to update and repair it, plus give it a fresh coat of paint. Watch for it!

Winter is a quieter time of year — except for the storms, of course! So just two more events are schedule for the month of February, the Northwest Author Series and Cannon Beach Reads.

The Northwest Author Series is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 11, at 2 p.m., when author Barbara Drake will be speaking about her latest memoir, "Morning Light." She is a retired English professor who has written fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. Her memoir, "Peace at Heart: an Oregon Country Life," was a 1999 Oregon Book

AT THE LIBRARY

CARLA O'REILLY



Award Finalist. She has also written Writing Poetry, which is used as a college textbook on poetry. The book has been in print since 1983. Lately our Author Series lectures have been extremely well-attended, so plan on arriving at the library somewhat before 2 p.m. in order to be assured of getting a seat.

The Cannon Beach Reads group will be meeting at the library on Wednesday, Feb. 15, at 7 p.m. and will be discussing the book they are currently reading, "Looking After Mimidoka: An American Memoir," by Neil Nakadate. The book deals with the "internment camp years,"

when the U.S. government removed 100,000 Japanese Americans from their homes and incarcerated them in camps because they were viewed as a threat to U.S. security.

Having been raised in Bellevue, Washington after World War II, my friends and I witnessed first-hand the hastily abandoned dwellings in the field behind our houses, complete with Japanese dolls, toys, and other paraphernalia — to which families sadly never returned.

The reading group always welcomes new members, so anyone with an interest in Japanese American life from immigration to the end of the 20th century might enjoy the event.

Finally, the Cannon Beach Library is always looking for new volunteers! Anybody who is interested in helping should call Co-President Kathe Leduc at 503-436-2250.

LETTERS

Letters from Page 4A

up in the tourism racket, I would like to offer the following, from *The Asheville Blade* newspaper:
"The most important step in tourist interaction is

what you can do to reduce the likelihood of encountering them in the first place. Tourists are very attracted to food, which means that trash should be secured indoors and not set out on the curb the night before pick-up.

Remove bird feeders from the property, as those too are known to attract tourists. Do not feed them or alert them to your restaurant connections ..."
The article goes on, but its tenor is obvious, as is my

long-standing opinion of an economy based upon tourism: If crowding and congestion are the problem, is more tourism and its consequence the solution?
Gary Durheim
Cannon Beach

OBITUARIES

Trevor Gene Secord

Sept. 20, 2001 — Jan. 26, 2017



Trevor Secord

Trevor Gene Secord, 15, of Warrenton, was born in Seaside, Oregon, on Sept. 20, 2001, and went home to be with our Heavenly Father on January 26, 2017.

A Warrenton resident since age 4, he attended Warrenton public schools and was a freshman at Warrenton High School.

He was full of life and loved by many. He was an amazing athlete, brother, son, nephew, grandson and friend. He was also a lover of animals, football, baseball, wrestling and had a protective warrior spirit and was a protector of many.

Trevor is survived by his parents, Christina and Ben Secord; brothers Tyson, Trey and Tripp; sisters Tianna, Teagan and Taylynn. Also surviving are his grandparents, Brenda and Lewis McKune, Pam, Dan and Marsha Secord, uncles Cliff and Brandon Williams, Jeremiah Secord, Matt and Josh Beatty; aunts Heather McKune and Talia Secord. He is also survived by many cousins, great-aunts and uncles and a community of friends.

He was preceded in death by his uncle Daniel Williams, grandfather Darwin Secord, and aunt Janet Hollyfield. He is truly loved and will be

severely missed by all who knew him.

A celebration of Trevor's life, followed by a potluck fellowship, was held at Warrior Hall at Camp Rilea in Warrenton on Wednesday, Feb. 8.

Memorial contributions in his memory may be made to your favorite charity.

Please sign our online guest book at www.OceanViewAstoria.Com.

Obituary Policy

The Seaside Signal publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at www.dailyastorian.com/forms/obits, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Daily Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria. For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

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