

# The case of the vanishing bunnies

**GUEST COLUMN**  
MELODIE CHENEVERT

Once upon a time long ago in Cannon Beach, someone released their pet rabbits into the wild. The strong and resourceful survived and today their descendants can be seen frolicking in the early morning light and nibbling grass all day long.

They seem to thrive here in the Tolovana neighborhood. They are sweet, gentle creatures, who are entirely too trusting. They seem to be rather nearsighted and some of them, well let's face it, aren't too bright.

Meet Butterscotch and Blackie. They grew up in our flower bed and loved to hide in the heather. They were inseparable. For the past year they and six of their friends would go back and forth between our place (The Lost Art of Nursing Museum), and the Inn at Cannon Beach.

We always enjoyed the bunnies even though they ate so many of our flowers and shrubs. We just kept planting more. Live and let live.

We had never fed or named them until our grandchildren arrived for a visit last June. Our 5-year-old Sydney insisted on making them carrot salads. She would decorate a lettuce leaf with bits of carrots and giggle as they ate.

After their visit we started paying a lot more attention to the bunnies. Our German Shepherd thought we were crazy. After all, if you've seen one bunny, you've seen them all. But that's just not true.

This has been a very hard winter. Every morning after my husband, Gary, hung out the flag, he would give the bunnies some carrots and broccoli. Soon



SUBMITTED PHOTO

## What's happening to the bunnies?

Butterscotch, Blackie, and friends would assemble on our driveway and salute as the flag went up.

Recently, our favorite bunnies began to disappear. The first one to go missing was Butterscotch. Then, Blackie disappeared. Whitey, who lives across the street, vanished. Their numbers dwindled. Saturday, March 18, the crisis came to a head. Not a single bunny showed up! We were panicked and puzzled but our neighbors were not.

Was it a fox? A hawk? The brutal winter weather? No, someone was trapping and relocating the bunnies, a practice they have vowed to discontinue. The mystery is solved.

One of the truly unique things about Cannon Beach is our free range domestic bunnies. I am joining with other bunny lovers in the neighborhood to try and convince skeptics that our bunnies are an asset not a liability.

Easter is just around the corner. Tourists will be pouring into Cannon Beach and they love our bunnies! Visitors of all ages and nationalities are surprised, charmed, and delighted by them. The bunnies are photographed almost as much as our beautiful scenery.

First, we're getting the bunnies a Facebook page and forming a fan club. Who knows where this could lead? Maybe the bunnies will become our town's official animal mascot. By next spring we could have a bunny festival on Easter weekend with contests for the best photographs, original artwork, poems, and stories about bunnies. There could be a carrot cake bake-off and a "bunny bop" dance party.

Sarah Nagle, owner of the Surfcrest Market, has volunteered to be my partner in this venture. On Easter weekend we will be launching the Cannon Beach Bunnies Facebook Page and Fan Club. Stop by Sarah's bright blue store and join in the fun!

# Proper dental care key to healthy community

Our state is known for the colorful and diverse coastline, hiking trails under grand evergreens and snow-topped mountains, but did you know we are also known for having one of the country's highest rates of childhood dental disease? It's not one of those facts to brag about and that's why we're taking steps to change this statistic in our region and across Oregon.

This silent epidemic is disproportionately affecting Oregon children primarily due to limited access to community water fluoridation and dental care, regardless of income. And if left untreated, dental disease can be devastating to children's health, educational success, productivity, self-image and future potential.

Unfortunately, dental pain caused by tooth decay is one of the primary reasons elementary age students across the region miss school. These absences impact their academic achievement and path to success. Furthermore, current medical research indicates that dental disease can play a significant role in many other health conditions, including heart disease and diabetes. As Oregon's statewide dental director, Dr. Bruce Austin has

**GUEST COLUMN**  
ALANA KUJALA



stated, "There's such a connection between decreasing oral inflammation and overall health. It greatly improves overall health."

What's more, preventing tooth decay in our children isn't just good medical practice, it also makes good economic sense. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that for every dollar spent annually on water fluoridation, \$38 is saved in dental treatment costs. The cost of early intervention and preventive measures is negligible compared to the social and economic costs of widespread, untreated dental disease in our next generations.

We are lucky that many Clatsop County residents are beneficiaries of community water fluoridation; something the CDC has praised as among the 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century. However, Medicaid reimbursement rates

for dentists in Oregon are lower in comparison to other states, and this results in families having yet another barrier to getting dental care.

To help address the statewide crisis in Oregon, The Oregon Community Foundation launched the five-year Children's Dental Health Initiative in 2014 and built partnerships with other funders to improve access to care statewide. OCF's goal is to bring dental screening and preventive services into school settings, to promote oral health literacy, and to develop infrastructure that provides all children in Oregon with timely access to age-appropriate dental care. One of OCF's partnerships was with Providence Seaside Hospital and in the summer of 2016, we proudly launched a new school-based children's oral health program in Clatsop County Schools. "Providence Healthy Smiles" was created through a multi-year grant from OCF and is aimed at increasing children's education and access to dental care.

We are grateful for the grant funding that has enabled this program to start and must emphasize the importance of continued funding to ensure it exists long term.

## OBITUARIES

### Violet May Malo

Oct. 6, 1925 — March 26, 2017

Vi, who was 91, lived a full life surrounded by family and many friends. Everyone who knew her would say she was an extremely loving wife, mother, grandmother, and a hard worker and kindred spirit. She was a native Oregonian.

The daughter of Raymond and Viola Robertson, Violet was born in Dallas, Oregon. She attended school in Taft, Willamina and was a graduate of Sheridan High School, where she met her husband, Robert William Malo. They were married until his death in 1987.

Vi worked in the ship yards during World War II as a certified Navy welder and



Violet Malo

electrician. In later years, she ran and worked her blueberry farm in Tigard, Oregon, while raising her boys.

After her husband's retirement, they made the move to

Cannon Beach, Oregon. There she opened the Mama Malo's Burger Factory (home of the Surfer Burger) in an old box car. She also worked alongside her husband next door after the opening of Malo's Crab and Fish Market.

Violet had a love for traveling, the ocean and also her Lone Rock getaway.

She is survived by two sons, James Eugene Malo and Robert Adran Malo; four grandchildren, Angela Maria Malo, James Robert Malo, Matthew Robert Malo and Katelin Maria Malo; and three great grandchildren, Krystopher Daniel Malo, Malia Kana Lei Lani Malo and Summer Riley Malo.

Violet enriched everyone's lives she came in contact with, and was better known as "Mom Malo."

She's journeyed to the spirit in the sky (God speed), where she'll where she'll finally meet Elvis.

We'll miss her! Caldwell's Funeral & Cremation Arrangement Center in Seaside is in charge of the arrangements. An online guest book may be signed at www.caldwellsmortuary.com

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

CONSTRUCTION

**COASTER**  
construction, LLC

"Helping shape the character of Cannon Beach since 1973"

**Residential • Commercial • Remodeling**  
**New Construction • Storm Damage Repair**  
**Full Service Custom Cabinet Shop**

**503.436.2235**  
[www.coasterconstruction.com](http://www.coasterconstruction.com) • CCB# 150126

HEATING & COOLING

**Expert Service, Repairs & Installation**  
**Residential & Commercial**

Gas, Oil & Electric Furnaces  
Ductless Systems • Fireplaces  
Water Heaters • Heat Pumps & AC  
Commercial Refrigeration

Coast Heating & Cooling, LLC  
Licensed & Bonded  
Locally Owned & Operated

Cannon Beach, Oregon  
**503-440-6975**  
coastheating@gmail.com

Trade Ally of  
**EnergyTrust**  
of Oregon, Inc.

PAINTING

Licensed • Bonded • Insured  
CCB# 89453

Randy Anderson  
36 Years Experience

**Anderson Painting**

(503) 738-9989 • Cell (503) 440-2411 • Fax (503) 738-9337  
PO Box 140 Seaside, Oregon 97138

[www.andersonpainting.biz](http://www.andersonpainting.biz)

"Custom Finishing"

LANDSCAPING

Laurelwood Compost • Mulch • Planting MacMix  
Soil Amendments

**YARD DEBRIS DROP-OFF**  
(no Scotch Broom)

**503-717-1454**

34154 HIGHWAY 26  
SEASIDE, OR

**Laurelwood Farm**

CONSTRUCTION

**BOB McEWAN CONSTRUCTION, INC.**

**EXCAVATION • UNDERGROUND UTILITIES**  
**ROAD WORK • FILL MATERIAL**  
**SITE PREPARATION • ROCK**

OWNED AND OPERATED BY MIKE AND CELINE McEWAN

**503-738-3569**

34154 Hwy 26, Seaside, OR  
P.O. Box 2845, Gearhart, OR

SERVING THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST SINCE 1956 • CC48302

FLOORING

CCB# 205283

you walk on our reputation

**Carpet Corner**

Flooring • Installation • Carpet Cleaning

3470 Hwy 101 Suite 102 • Gearhart, Oregon  
503.739.7577 • carpetcornergearhart.com

MINI-STORAGE

**SPACE AVAILABLE**

**CANNON BEACH**

**MINI-STORAGE**

**Units Available**  
**5' x 10' • 10' x 10'**

Contact Shawna at 503-436-2235

**THE WINE SHACK**  
EST. 1977  
CANNON BEACH

**CANNON BEACH'S BEST SELECTION OF OREGON AND WASHINGTON WINE!**

**Shack Hours**  
Daily  
11AM to 5:30PM

**Tasting Room Hours**  
Saturdays • 1 to 5PM

**UPCOMING TASTINGS**

Apr 8 • Puffin Wines  
Apr 15 • Puffin Vintages Release  
Apr 21 • Cayuse for a Cause!  
Apr 22 • Spring Wines  
Apr 29 • Puffin Wines  
May 6 • Blind Tasting

**"Best Wine Shop"**  
- 2016 Reader's Choice Award

124 N. HEMLOCK, CANNON BEACH - 503.436.1100 - WWW.THEWINEHACK.WINE

**THE COASTER THEATRE PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS**

The **MOUSETRAP**  
By Agatha Christie

March 3 - April 15, 2017

Tickets \$20 or \$25  
Shows begin at 7:30pm  
Sunday shows at 3:00pm

Sponsored by  
**Coaster Construction**

COASTER THEATRE PLAYHOUSE  
108 N Hemlock St  
Cannon Beach, OR

Tickets: 503-436-1242  
coastertheatre.com

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY