

Beach bill anniversary celebrated

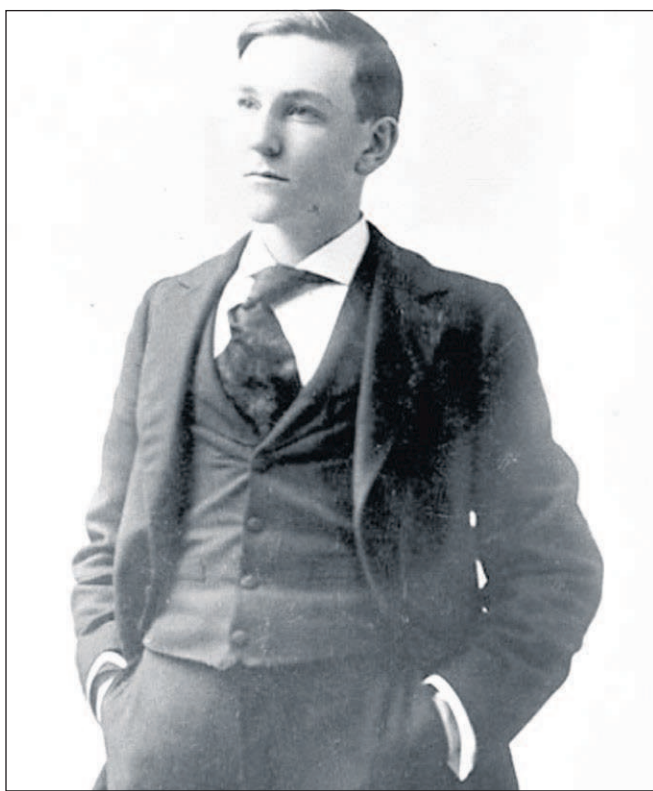
Beach from Page 1A

“This is a celebration about saving the beach,” Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Carrier said. “What if the beach would have been privatized? Can you imagine not being able to walk along the beach? This bill is probably the reason why this visitor economy exists on the coast.”

Brown intends to ride on horseback to the beach for the event as a way to replicate the actions of McCall without the carbon footprint of a helicopter, Carrier said. Because the state Legislature is still in session, however, Brown won’t be able to confirm until very close with the event, he said.

Otherwise, the plan is to have a former governor attend the event.

The event sprung out of a brainstorming session with Debbie Nelson, one of the main organizers of Sandcastle Day, Carrier said. The two realized it was the 50th anniversary of the bill, and decided that since the governor chose to come to



Oswald West at 15.

Cannon Beach it should warrant its own celebration outside of Sandcastle celebrations.

Other activities include a beach bike demo, a guided hike to Silver Point and a

campfire with s’mores on the beach and a performance from “The Weather Machine,” a band that will perform songs inspired by travels up the entire Oregon Coast.

All events are free.

The debate started in 1966 when a hotel wanted to rope off a section of sand in front of the hotel for guests after finding a loophole in the 1913 legislation that declared Oregon beaches were public highways, according to Oregon State Archives.

Carrier said he doesn’t think Cannon Beach could be what it is today without this bill.

“People established homes and businesses because of beach access,” he said. “We’ve all been the beneficiaries [of this bill].”

While some details remain to be ironed out, the overall goal will remain the same, Carrier said.

“The purpose is to educate and celebrate,” Carrier said. “It’s a milestone. This has stood the test of time, and we continue to see the benefits to now.”

Road to Ecola State Park closes again



BRENNA VISSER/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

The road to Ecola State Park faces periodic closures.

Brenna Visser
Cannon Beach Gazette

A hole in the recently-repaired entrance road has forced Oregon State Parks to once again close Ecola State Park.

The park just reopened Thursday, April 20, after contractors removed damaged asphalt sections and replaced them with compacted gravel from heavy rains. Park Manager Ben Cox said he was hopeful the temporary repair would last through the summer, but landslides continue to damage the road.

“We expect intermittent closures will be the norm moving forward because the landslides upon which the road is built seem to be more active lately,” said Cox. “The road has developed problems suddenly in areas that weren’t previously noted to have issues, meaning that it is impractical to simply go in and do the work all at once. We simply do not know where the next problem will occur.”

Bob McEwan Construction will be working on the repairs and the closure is expected to last two weeks.

Oregon history presentation comes to Cannon Beach

The creator of “Kick Ass Oregon History,” Doug Kenck-Crispin, offers his own unique presentation of former Oregon Gov. Oswald West at the Cannon Beach History Center and Museum on Thursday, May 11, at 7 p.m.

Originally from Spokane, Kenck-Crispin graduated from Lincoln High School in North Portland. He earned his bachelor of arts degree in history from Portland State University before earning his master of arts degree in history. He is the recipient of the 2009-10 Sara Glasgow Cogan Scholarship.

Kenck-Crispin is the resident historian for the podcast “Kick Ass Oregon History.” He has been featured in Imbibe and Portland Monthly magazines, OPB’s “Oregon Experience,” “Think Out Loud,” “Weekend Edition” and the season premiere of Esquire TV’s “Best Bars in America.”

He has written for Portland Monthly, Street Roots newspaper and the Willamette Week. He describes his style as “not boring history like high school, rigid and terse. This is PG-13 history, even rated R.”

At the history center and museum, Kenck-Crispin will be talking about Oswald West, who served as Oregon’s 14th governor from 1911-15. West



Bill Kenck-Crispin

focused on women’s suffrage, a new parole system for prisoners, abolished capital punishment and protected our beaches. Oregon also became a dry state during West’s time as governor. West was notoriously passionate about his policies, his family, and those who worked for him.

The museum is a private nonprofit located at the corner of Sunset and Spruce in Cannon Beach. This event is free and open to the public.

On Friday, May 26, soul-blues diva, Beth Willis and guitarist, Todd Chatalas perform at the history center. Willis and Chatalas perform both rock, acoustic, and blues music. Willis, who has played in Cannon Beach before, is a local favorite who is well known for her smoky voice and stage presence. Tickets are \$15; doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Cannon Beach adopts inclusivity resolution

City Council’s vote met with standing ovation

By Brenna Visser
Cannon Beach Gazette

The Cannon Beach City Council’s decision to adopt an inclusivity resolution to support the town’s immigrant and refugee community was met with a standing ovation Tuesday.

The resolution, which “embraces, celebrates and welcomes its immigrant and refugee residents and their contributions,” is not the same as becoming a sanctuary city. Cannon Beach joined the North Coast trend after Astoria and Warrenton passed similar resolutions earlier this year.

The resolution was drafted after several citizens approached Cannon Beach Police Chief Jason Schermerhorn about wanting Cannon Beach to become an inclusivity city like Astoria did in March.

“I know there is a lot of fear growing,” Schermerhorn said in April. “We want people to know we’re not actively seeking to deport undocumented folk.”



BRENNA VISSER/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

Residents give the Cannon Beach City Council a standing ovation after adopting an inclusivity resolution.

Ann Fontaine was one of those concerned citizens, and she thanked the council personally on Tuesday for adopting the measure.

“I’m an Episcopalian priest, and our church has been very proactive about accepting immigrants,” she said. “When it comes down to it, it’s about family. Immigrants are a part of our church family.”

Fontaine has been a religious leader on the North Coast for more than 20 years, and said the issue to her is about the core tenet of treating everyone with respect and dignity. She said she was pleased that Schermerhorn

was so receptive to the idea, and thinks it is significant that this message come directly from law enforcement.

“I hope this sends a message out to the immigrant community that we care,” Fontaine said. “It’s symbolic, but symbols can speak loudly with an issue like this.”

The string of inclusivity resolutions came after President Donald Trump’s push for a nationwide crackdown on illegal immigration. In January, the president also signed an executive order that would withhold federal grant money from sanctuary cities — a general term describing cities that seek to protect undocu-

mented immigrants from federal immigration policies.

Inclusivity resolutions allow cities to support immigrants and refugees without running the risk of possibly losing federal money by not cooperating with federal immigration agents. The resolution also does not change any current policies or procedures of the Cannon Beach Police Department.

The final draft clarifies that “except as required by federal or state law, no city of Cannon Beach services or benefits shall be used to detect or apprehend persons whose only violation involves federal immigration law.”

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