

How the Merchant Mariners protected our shores

May 22 is National Maritime Day, and a day on which we should all take a moment to thank those who protected our shores.

Maritime Day, which first became a national holiday in 1933, is a day of celebration and contemplation for many coastal residents and history buffs, for whom it is as important as President's Day. It is a day meant to honor Merchant Mariners, at first for their bravery during the American Revolution, and later for their instrumental roles in every single war America has ever fought.

When many of us think of the term "mariner," we might think of "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner," one of Samuel Taylor Coleridge's longest poems, and one of my personal favorites:

"He holds him with his glittering eye — The Wedding-Guest stood still, And listens like a three years' child: The Mariner hath his will. The Wedding-Guest sat on a stone: He cannot choose but hear; And thus spake on that ancient man, The bright-eyed Mariner. 'The ship was cheer'd, the harbour clear'd, Merrily did we drop Below the kirk, below the hill, Below the lighthouse top.'"

REFLECTIONS ELAINE TRUCKE



How many of you have felt yourselves transfixed by a mariner with a glittering eye? The life of a mariner, as depicted by Coleridge, was a hard one and one that few would choose.

Merchant mariners trace their heroic beginnings to the American Revolutionary War, when in 1775 civilians from Machias, Maine, engaged a British warship in battle.

According to "Maine: A Guide Down East," the Merchant Marines got their start at a port in Maine when HMS Margaretta arrived in Machias with two sloops — the Unity and the Polly — carrying supplies for British soldiers in Boston.

The British found that they were not as welcome as they had hoped. Citizens there had heard of the battles of Concord and Lexington and were in no mood to welcome the British and their supply ships.

According to U.S. Merchant Marine history, citizens of Machias decided to strip the sloops of

supplies, and then they captured both captains.

The remaining British soldiers fled to the Margaretta; while citizens lined the shore yelling, "Surrender to America!"

The British replied, "Fire and be damned!"

Jeremiah O'Brien and 40 men armed with guns, swords, and even pitchforks scrambled aboard the Unity and set course for HMS Margaretta. What few supplies of lumber there were available on the ship were used as defense against cannon fire. However, with out an arsenal aboard, the crew of the Unity slammed into the side of the Margaretta and stormed the ship.

Jeremiah O'Brien went on to captain a private ship called the Machias Liberty. He captured two more British schooners and delivered prisoners directly to George Washington in later years.

In 1936 the Merchant Marine Act made all American civilian ships military personnel during times of war. The mariners played important roles in World War I, World War II and even the Korean conflict.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, civilian shipping vessels

were again called upon to defend America. Merchant mariners underwent extensive training and faced

formidable odds bringing supplies to allied troops. Even here at the coast, local lumber shipping vessels were called to war, defending from San Francisco to Grey's Harbor and Puget Sound. According to the U.S. Navy, several steam-powered schooners, fishing trawlers, freighters, and even passenger ships out of Oregon were fired upon or lost at sea.

Two ships reported out of Coos Bay that were torpedoed were the SS George Olson and the SS Cynthia Olson. The War Shipping Administration reports that over 1,500 merchant vessels were sunk during World War II.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt

said this of the merchant mariners:

"(Mariners) have written one of its most brilliant chapters. They have delivered the goods when and where needed in every theater of operations and across every ocean in the biggest, the most difficult and dangerous job ever undertaken. As time goes on, there will be greater public understanding of our merchant's fleet record during this war (World War II)."

In 2002, George W. Bush amended the national maritime

holiday to include merchant mariners instrumental in the Gulf War. According to this amendment, mariners who participated in the Gulf War were vital to one of the largest sealfit operation since D-Day. Today, there are approximately 450 different Merchant Marine ships still in operation.



Smith, Mekenas return; Lum, Stelson elected

Cannon Beach Rural Fire and Protection District incumbents Garry Smith and Mark Mekenas both ran unopposed and will remain on the board. Smith and Mekenas will serve two-year terms.

Smith, a firefighter with 35 years experience and six years on the board of directors, won with 258 votes.

Mekenas, owner of Cannon Beach Surf and the Beach Store since 1998, filled a vacant board seat in 2015 and won with 259 votes.

Seaside School District

The Seaside School District Board of Directors showed two competitive board races. In final unofficial results, in Gearhart's Zone 3, Position 1, Lori Lum took 75 percent of the vote over A.J. Wahl, with 1,425 votes to Wahl's 527 in filling the seat vacated by Lynn Ulbricht. Director Zone 6, Position 2, the other contested race, showed incumbent Hugh Stelson taking 57 percent of the votes, with 1,063, votes to Karen Custer's 775.

Two other seats were uncontested. Michelle Wunderlich received 1,517 votes in Zone 7, Position 1 in running for the vacated at-large seat of Tom Maltman. Brian Taylor received 1,520 votes in Cannon Beach's Zone 2, Position 2.

Three seats, held by Chairman Steve Phillips, Vice-chairman Mark Truax and Patrick Nofield of Cannon Beach were not up for election on the seven-person board.

"I appreciate the chance to keep working with the other board members and the district staff to improve educational opportunities and outcomes for all our kids," Stelson said Wednesday. "The next few years are very exciting for new facilities, but a bit treacherous from the state funding and PERS perspective. As usual I expect we will try to make the best of wherever we find ourselves."



Lori Lum-Toyooka



Hugh Stelson



Brian Taylor



Michelle Wunderlich

"I'm so thankful and thrilled to be elected to the Seaside School District Board," Lum said. "I feel fortunate to be able to work with the administrators, teachers and parents to ensure the growth and development of our children. These kids are our future."

Directors will begin their four-year terms in August, Superintendent Sheila Roley said at Tuesday's board meeting, as there is no July meeting scheduled.

Seaside Fire

Seaside voters endorsed Local Option 4-186, approving \$2.018 million

over five years for fire equipment and personnel, to be split three ways: for self-contained breathing apparatus; a new ladder truck; and funding for the department's training and safety officer. The measure passed by 72 percent.

SEPRD

In Seaside's Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District, Veronica Russell defeated Kindwyn Hoge with 74 percent of the vote for Position 1. Hoge had said before the election she would decline the role if elected due to a threatening letter sent to her opponent.

Other directors in the district, Michael Hinton in Position 3, Jeremy Mills in Position 2; Edward Hassan in Position 4 and Alan Evans in Position 5 all won seats unopposed.

District board members serve four-year terms. Hassan and Evans, who filled unexpired terms, will serve two years and could run for re-election in 2019.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Wednesday, May 24

Cannon Beach Budget Meeting, 5:30 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

Thursday, May 25

Cannon Beach Planning Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

Friday, May 26

Cannon Beach Emergency Preparedness Committee, 10 a.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

Tuesday, June 6

Cannon Beach City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

Monday, June 12

Cannon Beach Rural Fire Department Board, 6 p.m., Fire-Rescue Main Station, 188 Sunset Ave.

Tuesday, June 13

Cannon Beach Public Works Committee, 9 a.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

Cannon Beach City Council,

5:30 p.m., work session, City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

MUNICIPAL MEMO

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION
MAYOR: Sam Steidel
COUNCILORS: Mike Benefield, Nancy McCarthy, Brandon Ogilvie and George Vetter
CITY MANAGER: Brant Kucera

MEETINGS JUNE 2017

6	City Council Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
13	City Council Special Meeting & Work Session	5:30 p.m.
15	Design Review Board	6:00 p.m.
22	Planning Commission	6:00 p.m.

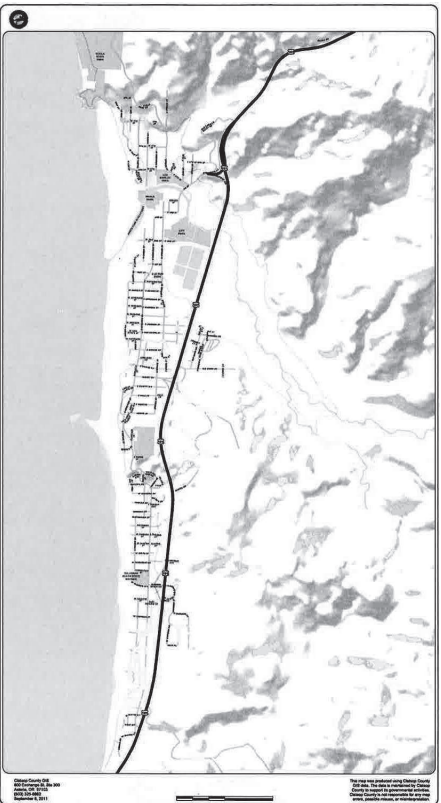
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, May 2, 2017

- Adopted Ordinance 17-06, For the Purpose of Amending Municipal Code, Chapter 2, to Establish Section 2.38, Emergency Preparedness Committee, Establishing Rules and Regulations for its Governance and Prescribing the Powers and Duties of Said Emergency Preparedness Committee;
- Adopted Resolution 17-07, For the Purpose of Approving Changes to the FY 2016-17 Budget by Increasing Appropriations in the General Fund to Allow for a Specific Purpose Donation from the Friends of Haystack Rock;
- Adopted Resolution 17-08, For the Purpose of Declaring Cannon Beach as a City of Inclusivity;
- Adopted Resolution 17-09, For the Purpose of Adopting the Parks Master Plan;
- Adopted Resolution 17-10, For the Purpose of Endorsing the Clean Energy Jobs Bill;
- Adopted Proclamation 17-04; Declaring May 21 - 27 as Emergency Medical Services Week;
- Accepted A-17-01, a Petition for Annexation of a Two-Acre Parcel at 82743 Elkwood Mountain Road;
- Continued A-17-01, an Appeal of an Administrative Decision to Suspend the Short-Term Rental Permit for 3523 Pacific Street;
- Reviewed and suggested changes to the

Annual Parking Plan. Directed staff to incorporate their comments and bring the plan back to the June Council meeting.

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION, May 9, 2017

- Discussed implementing timed parking along Hemlock St, and cross streets 1st, 2nd and 3rd on a trial basis to free up parking during the summer season: a goal from the strategic planning session last year;
- Finance Director Laurie Sawrey presented the 3rd Quarter FYE 2017 Finance Report;
- Discussed the proposed Construction Excise Tax as one of the ways to assist with the funding of the affordable housing program; a goal from the strategic planning session last year;
- Discussed the purchase of software to assist staff with tracking deadlines and progress of the many new grants and programs of the city.



DESIGN REVIEW BOARD - The Design Review Board meeting scheduled for May 18, 2017 at 6:00pm. **has been cancelled.**

PLANNING COMMISSION - The Planning Commission meeting of April 27th was cancelled.

The Planning Commission is scheduled to meet May 22nd for a work session and again on May 25th.

Of Interest...

The Cannon Beach **Recycle Center** is open Tuesday - Sunday, 8am - 4pm for residential and commercial use.

COMING SOON

Cannon Beach Farmers Market

Tuesdays starting June 13th
2:00 - 5:00pm: Fresh produce, natural meats, wild-caught seafood, cheeses, baked goods, honey, mushrooms, artisan food products & flowers
1:00 - 5:00 pm: Lunch and live music, wine tasting & local community groups

NOTICE OF VACANCIES CITY COMMISSIONS, BOARDS & COMMITTEES

The City of Cannon Beach is seeking applications for the following vacancies:

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: TWO (2) vacancies to fill four-year terms. The primary responsibility of the Public Works Committee is to review all public works projects and make recommendations to City Council. The Public Works Committee holds its regular meeting on the third Tuesday of each month at 9:00am.

To be eligible to serve on a City committee, applicants must have resided within the city or its urban growth boundary during the one year immediately preceding appointment; or at the time of appointment, shall have owned real property located within the city or its urban growth boundary for at least one year immediately preceding appointment. Council has implemented an interview process consisting of a set of questions particular to each committee/board or commission and written answers must be submitted with the application. Applications with questions are available at City Hall, 163 E. Gower Street, Cannon Beach, by email addressed to riggs@ci.cannon-beach.or.us, or online at . For consideration at the June 6, 2017 City Council meeting, applications must be returned to Colleen Riggs, Assistant City Manager, Cannon Beach City Hall, at P.O. Box 368, Cannon Beach, OR 97110 by 4:00 p.m., May 26, 2017. Late applications will not be accepted. For more information, please contact Colleen Riggs by email or phone at (503) 436-8052.

HAYSTACK ROCK AWARENESS PROGRAM

Why does HRAP need volunteers?

Thousands of people visit Cannon Beach every summer, and many are drawn to our local monolith, Haystack Rock. With a small seasonal staff team and limited funds, HRAP depends on volunteers to accomplish its goals. Volunteers play a crucial role in educating the public and visiting school groups while promoting stewardship of our natural treasure.

What do volunteers do?

Volunteers do all sorts of things. Most visible are the beach interpreters who educate visitors about the amazing marine and bird life at Haystack Rock. Some on the beach duties include: setting up the trailer display, manning bird scopes, guiding tidepool tours, and reminding people about the rules of the rock. Volunteers also help organize potlucks, update educational materials and many other activities.

Why volunteer?

HRAP volunteers are part of an exciting outdoor education program! Our staff and volunteers have diverse backgrounds and talents making our team dynamic and interesting. Volunteering is a great way to meet people from all over and to learn more about this special part of the world. Our program began with volunteers in 1985 and will only persist in the future with the help of volunteers.

I know nothing about tidepool life or birds. Can I still help?

Of course! The only requirements are interest and enthusiasm! Staff is always present on the beach to help answer questions. Many of our volunteers start with little knowledge, but gain a lot quickly by simply volunteering. HRAP also hosts three trainings each year to help both volunteers and staff gain the knowledge needed to be a successful interpreter.

Until the next training, check out our links page to find websites that provide basic marine biology, fun tidepool tidbits, photos and seabird information. Also check out our HRAP resource links below.

I'm not sure about being on the beach. How else can I help?

We can use you! Serving on a committee, donating equipment and services, assisting with mailing --again, interest and enthusiasm are the only requirements.

Okay, you convinced me. How do I sign up?

Simply contact HRAP's volunteer coordinator at (503) 436-8064 or Habecker@ci.cannon-beach.or.us.