

# Parking solutions up in the air

Parking from Page 1A

In the world of parking studies, an 85 percent occupancy rate is considered the time when parking becomes inconvenient and difficult to find. Davis found that Hemlock Street and Second Street were at full capacity almost all day, while other parts of town ebbed and flowed.

Davis said he suggested timed parking because 7.5 percent of the cars he tracked in his study were parked longer than three hours. Having those cars park in the lots would open up more spots throughout the day, which he said results in more economic impact for businesses.

"What I found was the public lots are supporting the businesses and Hemlock is supporting the beachgoers," Davis said.

Davis said he has found in most cities the economic benefits of an occupied parking space drop off after two hours.

**'This will make the town seem unfriendly, and as business owners we will get the brunt of the unhappiness.'**

Sharon Amber, owner of Jewelry by Sharon Amber

"If people are going to spend money, they are going to do it quickly."

### Other solutions

After the presentation, some questioned the necessity of timed parking if only 7.5 percent were staying longer than what timed parking would enforce — including councilor Nancy McCarthy.

"If it's only 7 percent, why are we talking about this?" she asked.

Many in the community suggested to the City Council that the town does not parking problem as much as it has a "traffic problem," and suggested the city consider a one-way grid downtown, expand shuttle service or invest in different

ways to direct traffic to lots to avoid traffic jams.

"The traffic can be a safety issue," Joyce Lincoln, owner of Northwest by Northwest Gallery, said.

Others were concerned with the number of signs ruining the aesthetic of the town.

"This will make the town seem unfriendly, and as business owners we will get the brunt of the unhappiness," Sharon Amber said, owner of Jewelry by Sharon Amber.

Amber also suggested the city invest in a parking garage to increase the number of spaces, but Davis warned about expanding too much with little to gain.

"The next space you build will be your worst," he said.

"The return on investment economically would not be high with the capital cost."

Bill's Tavern & Brewhouse owner Jim Oyala said he doesn't think Cannon Beach has a parking problem. Oyala has lived here since 1970, and said he wants other people to discover the town with the same ease he did almost 50 years ago.

"This place is magic. It's a beautiful walking town, and we should help people enjoy that," Oyala said. "We already had a bad winter. We're just trying to have a summer."

City councilors took notes during the hearing for future discussion council plans to have after the peak season comes to a close.

"At the movie theater when all the seats are full and the last ticket is sold, you close the doors," Councilor George Vetter said. "But we can't close the door to our town. When we are full we are full, and we need to learn to manage that."

# Cannabis retail dispensary coming soon to Cannon Beach

## City's first marijuana dispensary to open by fall

By Brenna Visser  
Cannon Beach Gazette

Cannon Beach will welcome its first marijuana dispensary later this summer.

The Portland-based, recreational dispensary Five Zero Trees will move into the former location of the home goods store Fruffels at 140 S. Hemlock St. within the next six weeks, co-owner Case Van Dorne said. Van Dorne plans to open a similar store in Astoria by July 14, he said, and operates six other locations around the Portland metro area.

While other parts of the North Coast have had multiple dispensaries set up shop since the state legalized marijuana, this will be the first in Cannon Beach since the community narrowly defeated a retail cannabis prohibition at the polls in November.

"I've loved Cannon Beach for a long time. My friends and I would come down to the coast to fish for years. It's the first place I ever went to on the coast," Van Dorne said. "There is something so special about

the aesthetic and the experience people have in this place, and cannabis could add to that experience."

### Fitting in

Van Dorne watched Cannon Beach's prohibition referendum closely, but said his business prides itself on integrating into whatever community it is serving.

"We're not out there to have some in-your-face crazy inflatable guy on the corner or person dressed in a pot leaf costume — we try to take a nondescript approach and be respectful to the community we're in."

Van Dorne and his two business partners, Joel Jennings and Jason Cain, combined have about 30 years of experience working in the medical marijuana industry. While this store is primarily recreational, Van Dorne and Jennings got their start in the medical marijuana industry after being introduced by a mutual friend who was a medical marijuana patient.

"Cannabis is a substance that can transcend all genders, religion, lifestyle — it brings different values to different people," he said. "If we can provide this experience in a safe mechanism, that's fulfilling."

### Expanding cannabis

While Five Zero Trees will be the first to open its

doors in town, other applications and casual inquiries have been submitted to the city in the past year, City Planner Mark Barnes said in June.

One application will be heard by the Design Review Board in August about plans to open a marijuana dispensary at 3115 S. Hemlock St.

The applicant and owner, Daryl Bell, attempted to open a retail marijuana shop in a condominium complex near Pier 39 in Astoria last year. The store did not open, however, after the Astoria City Council decided the Planning Commission did not properly consider the residential nature of the site.

"We've had lots of interest, but not many move forward with the process yet," Barnes said last month.

The Cannon Beach City Council voted last year to restrict marijuana sales to three separate commercial zones. Under the ordinance, retailers could operate downtown from Ecola Creek south to Washington Street, midtown from Harrison Street south to Elliot Way and in Tolovana Park from Delta Street south to the Sandcastle Condominiums.

# Cannon Beach celebrates

Parade from Page 1A

"What can I say? I've always loved a good parade," Nancy Teagle said.

Floats filled with community residents adorned in a variety of American flag garb slowly chugged down the town's main street Tuesday, representing emergency responders, businesses and organizations.

Don Boehm, the commander of American Legion Post 168 and former Cannon Beach local, served as the parade's grand marshal. "It's an honor. For 20 years I carried the colors, and now I get to ride as grand marshal," he said. "I love the excitement in the faces of the people who come to see the parade."

While the size of the parade has changed over the course of decades, much of the parade has not, said former American Legion commander and event organizer Dan O'Reilly — and that is exactly the point.

"Especially today, with this divisiveness, when you can see something where people come together it frankly gives me a little bit of hope," O'Reilly said. "Red, blue and all in between are out there. It's small-town America at its finest."

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