



Cannon Beach Academy gets the go-ahead

Volunteer efforts help charter school meet deadline

By Brenna Visser
Cannon Beach Gazette

Cannon Beach will have an elementary school again.

It's a project that supporters of the charter school have been working toward for almost four years after the old elementary school was closed for tsunami safety reasons and a budget shortfall. But as of, Aug. 15, the academy, a tuition-free, public charter school offering kindergarten to second grade, has secured a temporary occupancy permit that will allow the school to open for classes on Sept. 5.

"I'm over-the-moon excited," Amy Moore, the school's execu-

tive director, said. "We are blessed to have all of the support from the community."

The road here

Because the location for the school was secured only two months ago, volunteers, academy board members and Coaster Construction worked down to the wire to meet the Aug. 15 deadline set by Seaside School District. The last-minute need to find a new location came when the board received an estimate of \$150,000 over the \$90,000 they budgeted for construction costs at the original location on Sunset Boulevard. Costs were driven up because the space would need to be renovated extensively to meet state school fire codes.

The academy was able to find an alternative in the former Preschool and Children's Center at 3781 S. Hemlock St. But by the time lease



BRENNA VISSER/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

Volunteers helped sweep up leaves at a cleanup event in July for the new Cannon Beach Academy. The school will open for classes on Sept. 5.

negotiations with the city finished and the proper permits were in hand, the academy was left with about a month to renovate the building up to code. Installing fire safety equipment, addressing Americans with

Disabilities Act access concerns and other general maintenance projects were needed.

"It is thanks to Coaster Construction and all the volunteers that we were successful," Moore said.

Almost every weekend over the past month, Moore said volunteers came out to help clear brush, paint the interior and exterior of the school and clean a building that sat vacant for more than a year.

Moore has also received a number of in-kind donations, such as school supplies, organizational items and a defibrillator from Cannon Beach Fire and Rescue.

"People have really come out of the woodwork for this," Moore said.

More to go

There are still a few hurdles left for the academy before officially crossing the finish line. The charter school was awarded temporary occupancy with an agreement that a full fire safety system would be installed by November. This is one of the largest renovations

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North Coast was

'BLINDED BY THE LIGHT'



A view of the eclipse from Seaside.

JEFF TER HARIFOR CANNON BEACH GAZETTE



KATIE FRANKOWICZ/EO MEDIA GROUP

Eclipse watchers near the Peter Iredale shipwreck at Fort Stevens State Park near Warrenton.

Eclipse has great views on the coast, few glitches

By Jack Heffernan, Katie Frankowicz and Brenna Visser
EO Media Group and Cannon Beach Gazette

Porsche Brunzell, sporting a NASA shirt and sweatpants featuring drawings of galaxies, sat at the base of the Astoria Column facing the sun. An admitted space nerd, she had been counting down to the moment for weeks.

She figured the Column, just up the road from her home, was as good a spot as any to see the celestial event.

"I'm geeking out a bit, trying to calm down," she said about an hour before the solar eclipse as early morning clouds began to fade. "The universe has to give me this."

For Brunzell and millions of people across the United States on Monday, the universe did just that. But the total solar eclipse did not bring the potential downsides many had feared. There was little traffic gridlock and no unruly crowds — a relief on the North Coast.

Sunny skies

Estimates had roughly 1 million people coming to Oregon over the weekend and Monday, temporarily — and quickly — increasing

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It's 30 years for the Arts Association

Nonprofit art gallery observes years of dedication to artists

By Brenna Visser
Cannon Beach Gazette

The Cannon Beach Arts Association has weathered all sorts of storms to make it to its 30th anniversary. Sometimes that meant physically surviving storms, Board President Lila Wickham said.

"We do live on the edge of the ocean," Wickham laughed.

But the type of storms Wickham mostly means were the internal ones that go with launching and sustaining a local nonprofit. Over the course of 30 years, the Cannon Beach Arts Association has cycled through many locations, boards, aesthetics and visions, Wickham said.

"What making it 30 years mean is that we are an integral part of the community — otherwise we wouldn't last," she said.

The Cannon Beach Arts Association represents 150 regional and local artists working in fine arts and crafts in nine curated shows each year. It was a product of a two-day workshop conducted in 1986 through the Or-



BRENNA VISSER/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

Board Vice President Linda Gebhart, Program Director Cara Mico, Board President Lila Wickham and volunteer Nancy Bond pose at the Cannon Beach Gallery.

egon Arts Commission, which decided developing an association would help replenish and enhance the vitality of the arts in the community.

The association grew into a number of programs, including the Cannon Beach Gallery, summer

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Third pot shop seeks OK in Cannon Beach

Tolovana shop slowed by design review process

By Brenna Visser
Cannon Beach Gazette

Progress will be stalled for a marijuana retailer looking to set up shop in Tolovana.

On Thursday night, the city's Design Review Board decided to issue a continuance to allow the applicant, Daryl Bell, more time to elaborate on and amend major exterior design modifications at 3115 S. Hemlock St.

If approved, this would be the third retail marijuana shop to come to Cannon Beach.

Nancy Benson, the project manager from Grace Design and Landscaping LLC, represented

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