

A summer surprise visit from a New Yawker

Imagine my surprise last week when my phone rang and it was an old friend from New York. “Will!” I practically screamed into the phone. I hadn’t heard from him in so long. Once upon a time, say a dozen years ago, we met through horses. A born and lifelong New Yorker with a lovely home on Manhattan’s Upper East Side, Will has a sister who lives in Eugene, so it’s not like he’s a total stranger to Oregon.

“I’m in Astoria,” he said. “Aren’t you kind of close?”

I texted him my address and within an hour he was pulling his rental car into our driveway.

“Coffee, beer, marijuana?” I said. “It’s all legal here. Pick one or have them all.”

He chose coffee so I brewed up a pot of Sleepy Monk.

Will said he came out to the coast to hike and bird watch en route to Eugene, where he was headed for a family visit. He’d flown into Portland several days before; already he’d been hiking and bird watching in the Olym-



VIEW FROM THE PORCH
EVE MARX

pic Mountains with the Audubon Society, spotting Rufous Hummers, Varied Thrush, Stellar’s Jay and Horned Lark.

We offered him dinner and our guest room, but he had other plans. He’d booked a reservation that night at the Hallmark Resort in Cannon Beach, a place he’d heard a lot about but had never seen.

“Well, you’ve got to see The Rock,” I said, referring to Haystack. “I think the puffins — or what’s left of them, every year there are less and less — have already come and gone, but it’s still a must-see.”

We did some catching up, me mostly asking him about his dating life since Will is what you might call an eligible bachelor. He said he and the lady he’d been seeing for several years had recently parted company, but there was a new lady

of romantic interest.

“Another redhead,” he said, showing me a pic. “This will be my third redhead in a row. What do you make of that?”

We took a walk with my young dog, Lucy, on the beach in south Seaside.

Will entered the water, which I described as freezing.

“It’s practically balmy,” he declared, emerging from the surf. He was so well prepared, he’d brought his own beach towel. “A few weeks ago I was swimming off the coast of Newfoundland, so this doesn’t seem that bad.”

In addition to being an eligible bachelor, Will is also a well-to-do nomad. His Facebook posts in

recent months have recorded visits to Cape May, NJ; Palm Beach, FL; Hammonasset Beach State Park in CT, the National Museum in Sweden and Zamora, Ecuador.

After what seemed too brief a visit, we hugged and he shoved off. I gave him some ideas where he might have dinner, although he’s so slender I suspect he eats like a bird.

Will texted me a few hours later to say he’d checked into his hotel.

“I didn’t get there for hours,” he wrote. I thought he was going to blame the traffic, but a few moments later he wrote it was because he’d pulled off the highway to hike around. I remember this kind of behavior from our horseback riding days. Will’s one of those people

who can’t resist exploring a new trail.

“When I got to Cannon Beach, I went directly to The Rock,” he wrote. “There were literally hundreds of people there. They seemed to be having a transcendent experience, like pilgrims.”

“Indeed,” I wrote back. “They’re drawn by the awesome energy. While you’re there, be sure to soak some up.”

I didn’t hear from Will again until he arrived in Eugene. His family was thrilled to see him and a lot of them were there. He told me in a few days he’d be driving back to Portland to catch a non-stop flight back to New York. He said me the one thing he regretted while on his visit to the coast was a meal at the famous Mo’s.

“They have one in the Jet Blue terminal,” I said, having frequented it myself. “Have a cup of clam chowder before your Red Eye flight and you’ll sleep like a baby,” I advised. I’m pretty sure he took my recommendation.

Come back soon, Will.

‘WHEN I GOT TO CANNON BEACH, I WENT DIRECTLY TO THE ROCK. THERE WERE LITERALLY HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE THERE. THEY SEEMED TO BE HAVING A TRANSCENDENT EXPERIENCE, LIKE PILGRIMS.’

—Will, a friend from ‘New Yawk’

LETTERS

How many pot shops do we need?

Three pot shops in Cannon Beach? Really?

I don’t think that the ballot measure said that the city has to allow them, just that the city may consider them. I hope that we can count on our city manager, city planner, the mayor and City Council to bring some common sense into the business-license application process for pot shops and deny them all. Astoria has six of them, Seaside five ... you can find it if you really want to.

The concept is contrary in so many ways to the comprehensive plan for Cannon Beach. Think about neighborhoods and family businesses. Pot shops are not what we are about. We have already seen these applicants ask to change the existing code to fit them, to cut corners in design and construction, as we read about the crime going on all around these places where they already exist. Worst of all, they want to immediately or eventually change the heart and soul and spirit of our wonderful beach village.

How about this: Cannon Beach is supposed to be the state’s greatest dog town. We have zero veterinarians. And now we are talking about three pot shops? Really?

**David Frei
Cannon Beach**

Initiative to form utility district

Last Tuesday night (Aug. 8) another power outage blacked out all of coastal Clatsop County for three hours. The night was peaceful and rain had not fallen in two months. So it came as somewhat of a surprise.

The cause of the outage according to Pacific Power was the failure of a single pole transformer in Seaside. Chalk it up to “a bird or a chemical reaction after rain,” says the Wyoming-based Pacific Power. “It’s the same idea as the breaker box in your garage,” Pacific Power stated.

I hate to be the bearer of sad news but in 2017, the failure of one of the thousands of pole-mounted transformers should not cause this level of outage in a well-designed power grid. It may be a trivial problem to Pacific Power but it is evidence that

the electrical grid in this area needs a lot of attention and modernization to become more fault-tolerant.

Please consider carefully the initiative now about to circulate to form our own People’s Utility District (Cascadia PUD).

We can join all our neighboring communities in Oregon and Washington who already have successfully operating PUDs. They enjoy local management and because PUDs have access to Northwest Bonneville Power, a 30 percent reduction in your monthly electric bill. In addition, Cascadia PUD has plans to construct a local renewable power generator, which Pacific Power rejected because they plan to build wind farms in Wyoming and make us pay to have it delivered 1,500 miles so its cost to us will be another 30 percent higher.

Cascadia PUD will save everyone in the community hundreds of dollars a year, require no increase in property taxes to operate and will create local jobs. In the event a Cascadia event does occur, it will be located and designed to provide electrical service to our communities immediately instead of our homes not having electricity for a projected

six-month outage with the current system.

**John Dunzer
Seaside**

Lessons from an old trapper

From Vietnam, Watergate, and Irangate, through Iraq, Afghanistan, and Syria, we read daily about the poor judgment of our elected officials. Barbara Tuchman, in her book, “The March of Folly,” poses the question well: “Why do holders of high office so often act contrary to the way reason points and enlightened self-interest suggests? Why does intelligent mental process seem so often not to function?”

I found the answer, not in the confines of some Washington think tank, but on the edge of a wilderness river in northern Idaho while fishing with my old trapper friend whom I fondly called Guru Charlie. I was haranguing him with all the international and domestic corruption just as he cast a grasshopper fly upstream. Looking back at me, he yelled, “Scandal to the jaybirds! The world ain’t round, it’s crooked!”

**Rex Amos
Cannon Beach**

PUBLIC MEETINGS

**Friday, Aug. 25
Cannon Beach Emergency Preparedness Committee, 9 a.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.**

**Tuesday, Sept. 12
Cannon Beach City Council, 7 p.m., regular meeting and work session, City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.**

**Tuesday, Sept. 19
Cannon Beach Public Works Committee, 9 a.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.**

**Thursday, Sept. 21
Cannon Beach Parks and Community Services Committee, 9 a.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.**

Cannon Beach Design Review Board, 6 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

**Thursday, Sept. 28
Cannon Beach Planning Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.**

**Tuesday, Oct. 3
Cannon Beach City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.**

**Tuesday, Oct. 10
Cannon Beach City Council, 7 p.m., work session, City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.**

MUNICIPAL MEMO

AUGUST 2017

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

INTERIM CITY MANAGER: Jason Schermerhorn

MEETINGS AUGUST 2017

5	City Council Regular Meeting - CANCELLED	7:00 p.m.
12	City Council Special Meeting and Work Session	5:30 p.m.
21	Design Review Board	6:00 p.m.
28	Planning Commission	6:00 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING, August 1, 2017

- Held a Public Hearing and voted 3:2 against Ordinance 17-09, which would have changed the time, place, manner criteria by allowing marijuana businesses in mixed use buildings;
- Approved Resolution 17-16, for the purpose of adopting a procedure to hire a new City Manager. This is a State of Oregon requirement to be done before any recruitment can be started.;
- Approved Resolution 17-17, for the purpose of declaring the intent of the City of Cannon Beach to uphold the environ-

mental concerns of the Paris Agreement;

- Nancy Littell of presented an update of the Cannon Beach Food Pantry;
- Appointed Douglas Caner to the Public Works Committee for a 4 year term;
- Adopted the FY 2017-18 Community Grant awards as recommended by the Parks & Community Services Committee.

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING, August 8, 2017

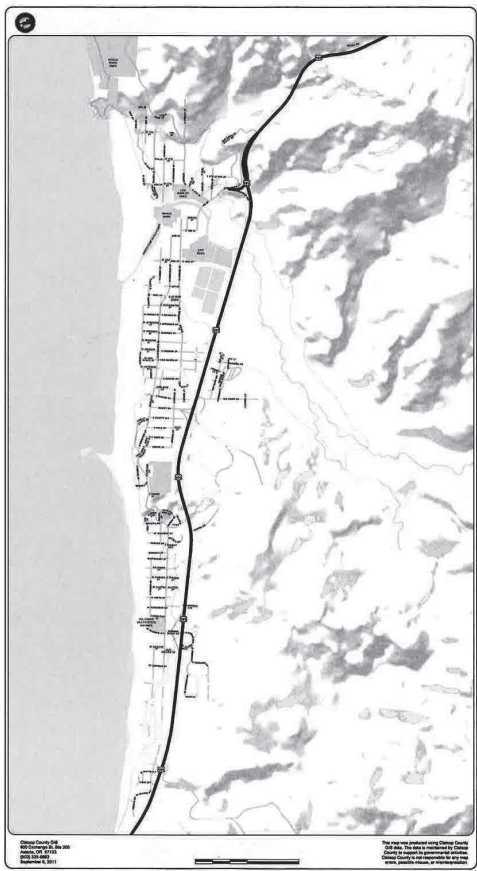
Voted to participate in the Clatsop County Housing, along with the cities of Seaside, Gearhart, Warrenton and Astoria as well as Clatsop County.

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD - The Design Review Board met August 17, 2017 and discussed:

- DRB 17-03**, Daryl Bell, Application for Major Modifications at 3115 S Hemlock. **Continued to 9/21/17**
- DRB 17-08**, Endreson et al, Application for External Modifications to a Duplex at 163 W. Orford. **Continued to 9/21/17**
- FS 17-02**, Cannon Beach Arts Association, Application for a Freestanding Sign at 1064 S. Hemlock. **Approved**

PLANNING COMMISSION - The Planning Commission met July 27, 2017 and discussed:

- SR 17-03**, Enderson et al, Request for a Setback Reduction in Conjunction with a Remodel at 163 W Orford Meetings. **Approved**
 - NC 17-01**, Austria, Request for Non-Conforming Alterations in Conjunction with a Remodel at 172 W Harrison. **Denied**
- The Planning Commission is scheduled to meet August 24th at 6:00 p.m. to discuss:
- V 17-01**, Wayfarer Restaurant Fence Located at 1190 Pacific Street.



CITY MANAGER RECRUITMENT

Cannon Beach has officially opened the recruitment for our next city manager.

The Council is looking for an experienced manager, preferably with past success in tourism-based communities. Compensation is \$115,000 to \$130,000 (DOQ) plus a housing allowance and excellent benefits.

Position details, application materials, and instructions on how to apply can be found at www.jensen-strategies.com/municipal-manager-recruitment.

COMMUNITY GRANTS POTLUCK MARK YOUR CALENDAR

City of Cannon Beach; Community Grant Potluck; Thursday, September 7, 2017 6:00p; Chamber of Commerce Community Hall; Bring a favorite dish to share.

COMMUNITY GRANT AWARDS

Cannon Beach Arts Association - \$8,226.67, Cannon Beach Chorus - \$1,064.50, Cannon Beach History Center - \$974.17, Clatsop CASA - \$3,016.67, Clatsop Community Action - \$5,950.00, Clatsop Community College Foundation - \$1,638.33, Coaster Theatre Playhouse - \$3,708.33, Healing Circle - \$1,050.00, Helping Hands - \$8,400.00, North Coast Food Web - \$1,339.00, NCLC - \$6,510.83, Restoration House - \$3,798.33, Sea Turtles Forever - \$2,107.33, Seaside Hall - \$970.00, South County Community Food Bank - \$2,300.00, SEPRD - \$750.00, The Harbor - \$7,016.67, Tolovana Arts Colony - \$12,095.83, Wildlife Center - \$4,083.33, TOTALS - \$574,999.99

CANNON BEACH FARMERS MARKET

Hello, Cannon Beach Farmers Market Friends! The Cannon Beach Farmers Market is open every Tuesday afternoon through September 26th. Vendors will be open from 1 - 5pm. Prepared food vendors will be ready to serve by 12 noon to meet your lunch needs. You can listen to live music, dine alfresco and shop the market for fresh produce, baked goods, cheeses, meats, flowers, artisan products and much more. Market is Located at the corner of Hemlock and Gower streets. See you at the market!

NOTICE OF VACANCIES CITY COMMISSIONS, BOARDS & COMMITTEES

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

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (EPREP) COMMITTEE: THREE (3) vacancies

to fill four-year terms. The EPREP Committee meets regularly for the purpose of providing evacuation planning and public education regarding emergency preparedness. The Emergency Preparedness Committee normally holds its regular meetings on the last Friday of each month at 9:00 a.m. and may schedule work sessions as needed.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: ONE (1) vacancy

to fill a four-year term. 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 9:00 a.m.

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 www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us For more information, please contact Colleen Riggs by email or phone at (503) 436-8052.

HAYSTACK ROCK AWARENESS PROGRAM BEACH VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

Do you enjoy being outside and sharing your love of Haystack Rock and Cannon Beach? **Please volunteer!** <http://www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us/hrap/page/hrap-2017-beach-program-schedule>. Please contact: Lisa Habecker, Education & Volunteer Coordinator, 503.436.8064, habecker@ci.cannon-beach.or.us