

# New fire personnel delayed

Levy from Page 1A

is to continue with paying for a fire chief with this levy," board member Garry Smith said.

If residents do not vote to renew the levy, the fire chief would be paid out of reserves for a year before the board either proposed another ballot measure to fund his position or found alternate funding.

Overall, Benedict said considering rate increases for the levy is just putting a bandage on a larger, long-term funding issue with the fire district.

Benedict is suggesting the board consolidate with other nearby fire districts to be more cost-efficient. If done correctly, he argues, reforming the district will make the department less reliant on bonds and levies. Cannon Beach has already started working with nearby Hamlet Fire District by doing combined training.

"There's more efficiency. Better emergency response, better training, more efficient operations," Benedict said. "It's a better bang for your buck. When you join together, it will decrease response times and consolidate training. Instead of paying for two fire chiefs, you have one. You don't need two fire marshals."

## 'We need to sit down and talk about what we need to do in the long run, otherwise, what kind of future do we have here?'

Fire board member Mark Mekenas

But reforming a fire district is a lengthy and complicated process that would not come to fruition until the distant future, Benedict said. Until then, board members held a workshop this week to discuss other long-term funding options to address issues like volunteer firefighter shortages and limited funds for aging equipment.

"All of the other districts I talk to face the same issues. They need money, and people don't want to pay more taxes," said board member Mark Mekenas. "We need to sit down and talk about what we need to do in the long run, otherwise, what kind of future do we have here? Small increases can help with some additional funds, but down the road? My God, we really have got to do something."

# Food pantry: 'too important to slow down'

Food from Page 1A

"We've been riding a high wave. We've continued to increase. We think we are finally reaching everyone that kind of needs help on a regular basis. We are hoping someday it starts going down," Martin said. "In the food banking business, saying business is up is not always a good thing."

While use has been steadily going up for years all over the county, the sharp increase at a pantry as small as Cannon Beach's is unusual, Martin said.

Littell and Wood said they don't have a particular explanation for the influx, but in general surmise the tourism-based economy contributes to a growing need.

Much of the work in Cannon Beach is seasonal, and when tourism dips, so do work hours and paychecks, Littell said.

"I also think part of the reason for the uptick is people are still finding out we're here," Littell said. "We're trying to raise our visibility."

Martin also said the increase could be a reflection of the same families picking up supplies more frequently.

"We used to be third tier. When family income disappears, you rely more on SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), and that is only designed for a certain amount of food. So you become more reliant on emergency food services," Martin said. "So people aren't able to work, or are on fixed incomes, but the cost of living is still going up. You start falling deeper into poverty, so you seek more noncost services like the food bank."

## Keeping up with demand

With an increase in demand comes a need for more resources, which, for an entirely volunteer organization of about 20, can be tricky. More demand for food meant the need for more trucks for hauling, more organizing, and of course, more supplies to give out.

"Some days it really feels like we're hustling, but I wouldn't say we've ever felt overwhelmed," Wood said. "It's too important to slow down."

Luckily, Wood said, there has been an upswell in financial and food donations, keeping the amount of food they must pur-



COLIN MURPHEY/EO MEDIA GROUP

Rock Wickham sets out produce at the Cannon Beach Food Pantry.

*'I REMEMBER WHEN 26 HOUSEHOLDS SEEMED LIKE A BIG NUMBER. WE REALLY THOUGHT WE WERE HUSTLING THEN. I GUESS WE WERE JUST GETTING STARTED.'*

Nancy Littell

chase steady. Almost 70 percent of the 70,000 pounds of the food served last year was donated.

Donations from second homeowners who have leftover food from their vacations have been on the rise, as well as from local restaurants and grocery stores. Sometimes people will drive by and hand Littell a check when they see her. Some individuals in town take it upon themselves to consistently supply one particular item each week. She attributes the increase to getting the word out about a growing need.

"We have one person who pro-



COLIN MURPHEY/EO MEDIA GROUP

David Kinhan, Charles Bennett and Rock Wickham line the tables with produce at the food pantry in Cannon Beach.

vides us laundry soap every week. One lady decided she couldn't stand the idea of people not having toothbrushes," Littell said. "So she's donated toothbrushes for two years now."

While the pantry is keeping up for now, the board has organized its first fundraiser after 10 years: a soup cook-off and silent auction

from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. on April 14 at the American Legion. Whatever is raised will go toward growing food reserves.

"Gosh. I remember when 26 households seemed like a big number. We really thought we were hustling then," Littell said. "I guess we were just getting started."

# MUNICIPAL MEMO

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION  
MAYOR: Sam Steidel  
COUNCILORS: Mike Benefield,  
Nancy McCarthy, Brandon  
Ogilvie and George Vetter  
CITY MANAGER: Bruce St. Denis

## MEETINGS MARCH 2018

<b>6</b>	<b>City Council Regular Meeting</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>City Council Work Session</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Design Review Board</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>Planning Commission</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>

### CITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION, February 6, 2018

- Met pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e); to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.

### CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, February 6, 2018

- Municipal Court Judge Ron Woltjer swore in new Police Officer Cody Dietel;
- HRAP Coordinator Melissa Keyser introduced the 2018 HRAP staff;
- Jenee Pearce-Mushen was presented with the SOLVE 2017 Leader of the Year Award for her outstanding service to the community;
- Nancy Little, Co-Chair of the Cannon Beach Food Bank presented their 2017 annual report;
- Police Chief Jason Schermerhorn presented the 2017 Cannon Beach Police Department annual report;
- Adopted Resolution 18-01 adopting the Water and Wastewater Master Plans;
- Held a public hearing and then adopted Resolution 18-02 - establishing water, wastewater and storm sewer utility rates effective March 20, 2018;
- Upheld the Public Works Committee's denial of a disputed utility billing fee waiver request;
- Appointed Jim Azumano to serve on the Budget Committee and Greg Swedenborg to serve on the Tourism and Arts Commission.

### CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION, February 13, 2018

- Met with members of the Public Works Committee to discuss committee direction;
- Met with members of the Chamber of Commerce to discuss the Promotions Program; more direction will come closer to the budget meetings;
- Directed staff to make changes to Ordinance 16-05 regulating cannabis related businesses within Cannon Beach. These changes include all businesses having to meet DRB standards regarding outer windows and allowing

mixed use (commercial and residential occupancy) of the buildings where they are located;

- Directed staff to investigate software options to assist with identifying who is renting via intermediaries such as AirBnB and not complying with the city ordinances for business licenses, paying TRT taxes and safety inspections;
- Approved the Cannon Beach Medical Reserve Corps (CBMRC) request to apply for a non-matching grant to allow the purchase of medical supplies for infants and toddlers. These supplies will be kept at the cache sites.

### CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION, February 20, 2018

- Discussed high dollar projects and initiatives: Old CBES site, South Wind, Mass Care, Affordable Housing and City Hall.

### CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION, February 21, 2018

- Council and members of the Budget Committee meet for preliminary budget discussion.

**DESIGN REVIEW BOARD** - The Design Review Board met February 15, 2018 and discussed:

**DRB 17-10**, David Vonada, construction of an 8-unit multi-family dwelling. **Approved with Conditions.**

**PLANNING COMMISSION** - The Planning Commission met January 25, 2018, and discussed:

**ZO 18-01 and CP 18-01**, City of Cannon Beach request for Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan text amendments updating the City's foredone management plan. **Continued to the 2/22/18 meeting.**

**ZO 18-02**, City of Cannon Beach request for Zoning Ordinance text amendments regarding workforce housing. **Continued to the 2/12/18 meeting.**

**ZO 18-03**, City of Cannon Beach request for Zoning Ordinance text amendments to Chapter 17.70 Tree Removal. **Recommended Approval.**

## Of Interest...

### TSUNAMI PREPAREDNESS CHAT

Tuesday, February 27, 2018 10:30 am - 11:30 am, City Hall Council Chambers, Free and Open to the Public, Learn how to PREPARE our community for earthquakes & tsunamis. Learn how to protect your family or business. Dr. Althea Rizzo, Geologic Hazards Program Coordinator at Oregon Emergency Management and others will be here to answer your questions. For more information please visit the city website [www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us](http://www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us) OR <http://www.oregon.gov/OEM/hazardsprep/Pages/Tsunami.aspx>

### BUSINESS CONTINUITY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FORUMS

Wednesday, February 28, 2018 1:30 pm - 4:00pm, City Hall Council Chambers. No business is immune to the effects of an emergency situation and every business should have a plan of action that is commensurate with their needs. This forum will focus on the importance of preparing your business, your employees, and protecting your assets in the event of a disaster. Instructor: Stacy M. Burr, Cannon Beach Emergency Management Consultant. Please RSVP to: [email@stacyburrconsulting.com](mailto:email@stacyburrconsulting.com)

### UPCOMING PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing on March 22, 2018 to consider the adoption of revised flood hazard determinations (FHDs) by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). A public hearing notice will be published prior to the hearing.

### 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 tide-pool 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](mailto:Habecker@ci.cannon-beach.or.us).

### NOTICE OF VACANCIES CITY COMMISSIONS, BOARDS & COMMITTEES

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

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (EPREP) COMMITTEE: TWO (2) 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.

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. Applications with questionnaires are available at City Hall, 163 E. Gower Street, Cannon Beach, by email addressed to [riggs@ci.cannon-beach.or.us](mailto:riggs@ci.cannon-beach.or.us), or on-line at [www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us](http://www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us). For more information, please contact Colleen Riggs by email or phone at (503) 436-8052.