

# Hemingway among the stars of April library programs

Welcome to spring, library friends and visitors! Hopefully you were all at our annual springtime library event at the Chamber Hall this past Wednesday, we hosted our member and volunteer appreciation luncheon. We enjoyed a delicious meal and shared warmth and friendship, as we expressed our deepest appreciation to our members and volunteers for all the hard work and time put into keeping our library the efficient place it has been for 91 years. Many thanks also to those of you who were unable to join us!

Looking ahead to next week, at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 11, we will be hosting the final HRAP lecture of the 2017-2018 series. This month our speaker will be Katie Voelke, director of the North Coast Land Conservancy. Her presentation is entitled "Life in the Coastal Edge."

**AT THE LIBRARY**  
CARLA O'REILLY



Cannon Beach Reads, our reading/discussion group, will meet at the library on Wednesday, April 18, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This month the members have been reading *For Whom the Bell Tolls*, by Ernest Hemingway. The book tells the story of Robert Jordan, a young American in the International Brigades attached to an antifascist guerilla unit in the mountains of Spain. The book tells of loyalty and courage, love and defeat, and the tragic death of an ideal. As always, new members will be welcomed warmly!

Mark your calendars, our next membership meeting will be at 10



CANNON BEACH LIBRARY

**Celebrating volunteers at the 2016 library dinner in Cannon Beach.**

a.m. on Wednesday, May 2 — join us for a delicious brunch and voting for our officers and members of the library board — you don't want to miss this important membership

meeting. Calling all lovers of rare and old literature! Memorial weekend, May 26 to May 28, we will be holding a rare and old book sale. Doors will

be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. all weekend. You don't want to miss this special sale.

A couple of reminders: It is time to pay your library membership dues of \$10. This can be done at the membership meeting or by stopping by the library. Also, this is the time of year to clean out your bookshelves and closets of already-read books. We are in the process of collecting books for our 4th of July book sale! You may bring the books by the library during the hours we're open. Also, we have tax cards available if you would like to claim your donation. The pricing committee encourages you to bring the books by as soon as possible, so they can be priced and processed.

Enjoy the "warmth" of spring, Library lovers — and if the weather is rainy, you can still come to the library and read by the cozy fireplace!

# Improving student performance is Fire Mountain's mission

This is the first installment of a new column submitted by Fire Mountain School, a local independent elementary school located just south of Cannon Beach and surrounded by the magic of Oswald West State Park. Our school's goal is to nurture curious, confident, creative problem solvers and stewards of their home place. By providing a foundation of experiential, hands on education for the whole child, the Fire Mountain Community supports healthy, happy, lifelong learners.

In the United States, how to best educate our children is a constant topic of debate, with educators and lawmakers in a seeming spiral of evaluating, reevaluating and mandat-

**EDUCATION TALKS**  
KATIE VOELKE



ing new approaches. We all want our schools to produce citizens who are healthy, happy, lifelong learners, but how best to do that?

This column will look at this question and more — we'll investigate education systems from around the world and look at different educational philosophies and styles of teaching. Writers will be parents, grandparents, and Alumni of our north coast schools. We will celebrate great local school moments,

and examine the variety of approaches to education around the globe.

The news is full of education statistics like this one: in 2015, U.S. schools were ranked 24th and 38th in the world in science and math. This unhappy ranking is provided by the program for International Student Assessment and based on tests taken every three years by 15-year-olds around the world.

In 2015 in math and science the U.S. fell behind all Asian countries, Finland, and most European countries. We're ranked lower than Poland, Denmark, Estonia, Portugal, Germany, New Zealand and Slovenia.

For the last 15 years the focus of U.S. education has largely shifted

to assessment through testing. And while math, science and reading are relatively easy to test, we also know that testing and teaching to those tests leave huge gaps. For instance, where are the reports about that student who has an innate talent for drawing or the one who knows where their body is in space while kicking a soccer ball? How are our students faring in other areas? You can't necessarily test for all areas of genius. According to Howard Gardner of Harvard University there are nine kinds of human intelligence. He says that these differences "challenge an educational system that assumes that everyone can learn the same materials in the same way and that a uniform, universal measure suffices

to test student learning."

*In this column, we intend to report on and be a part of a broad educational conversation recognizing that our education system is creating the citizens of the future and in that it shapes the world, our country and our wonderful North Coast.*

*We launch this column during the first days of spring and are ready to celebrate! May Day Celebration is coming up at Fire Mountain School on May 6th. There will be music, food, cake and best of all, dancing around the May Pole. Bring your families and friends, the whole community is welcome!*

*For more information, visit [Firemountainschool.org](http://Firemountainschool.org) or contact [firemountainschool@gmail.com](mailto:firemountainschool@gmail.com).*

# Rodeo, poker stops and more at Fat Bike Fest

By Chris Olson  
For EO Media Group

Fat bike enthusiasts will descend on the quaint coastal village of Cannon Beach the weekend of April 20 to April 22 to enjoy the Oregon Coast's first Fat Bike Festival.

The weekend begins on Friday as we enjoy a sunset ride with Haystack Rock as our background and plenty of fun fat bike activities around the bonfire including a slow race, obstacle course, various Fat bike skills competitions and enjoy delicious beverages from local craft brewers, Public Coast and Pelican brewery as we sit around the fire and enjoy the setting sun at Tolovana Beach.

Family and friends are welcome to watch the Friday night fat bike Rodeo and stay for s'mores around the fire.

After enjoying dinner on your own at one of the delicious eateries around town, retire for the evening at one of the many wonderful Cannon Beach hotel or vacation rental properties.

Many of these are offering deals for the weekend in-



FILE PHOTO

**Fat Bike weekend debuts in Cannon Beach.**

cluding 15 percent off for all registrants with Beachcomber Vacation Homes.

The group meets back in the late morning Saturday for a 14-mile beach ride which will take us from Ecola Creek, past Haystack Rock, to Arch Cape and back.

Along the way riders will have several "poker stops" to learn of the local ecology, including members of the

Haystack Rock Awareness Program the Haystack Rock poker stop. Visitors will be treated to clam chowder at Mo's and snacks along the route while riding along the beaches of Cannon Beach.

The day ends at Public Coast Brewing where their motto is, "Beaches forever, beer for everyone!"

Riders and guests will enjoy snacks, craft brewed

beer and prizes, including our grand prize of a two-night stay at Surfsand Resort, for the best poker hands collected during the days ride.

Visitors will have plenty of time on Saturday afternoon to browse, shop, eat, play, and discover the many treasures of Cannon Beach.

On Sunday, celebrate Earth Day by joining forces with Surfrider to participate in a beach cleanup. Participants will help to clean up, reuse and recycle as certain plastics collected will be given to local artists to be made into jewelry that will be sold to help fund stewardship and environmental educational programs.

The weekend will be filled with many fun fat bike activities but still plenty of time to explore and enjoy Cannon Beach.

Fat bikes will be available for people to demo if they don't yet have their own. Bring family and friends to this unique event.

For more information on the weekend's activities visit the website [www.BikeCannonBeach.com](http://www.BikeCannonBeach.com).



CANNON BEACH HISTORY CENTER AND MUSEUM

**Dr. Cameron Smith at work in the field.**

# Anthrologists trace the first voyagers to coast

On Thursday, April 19, at 4 p.m. the Cannon Beach History Center and Museum welcomes Dr. Cameron M. Smith to discuss when man first came to the Americas Smith is an anthropology professor at Portland State University and is a highly recognized scholar on human history, archaeology and evolution.

Smith will be discussing the old and new theories about the earliest dispersals of humans into the Americas. Whether by land or sea, these new archaeological sites bring about new questions. His talk, "By Land, Sea and Shore: New Evidence and Theories on the Earliest Human Dispersals into the Americas," will be free and open to the public.

Smith has a Ph.D. in archaeology from Canada's Simon Fraser University and is



CANNON BEACH HISTORY CENTER AND MUSEUM

**Cameron Smith lectures at the history center.**

a respected scholar, who has published scientific works in the American Journal of Physical Anthropology, as well as Scientific American, Scientific American MIND and more.

The museum is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday through Monday and is donation based. The center is located at 1387 South Spruce St.

# KMUN to celebrate with a birthday party April 14

Coast Community Radio will celebrate its 35th birthday with a party for the community on Saturday, April 14.

The bash will take place from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Ruins of the Astor Hotel, 1425 Commercial St. Astoria DJ and Coast community radio programmer Joey Altruda will spin tunes. The event will have a no-host bar as well as snacks and birthday cake for guests. Admission is free, although donations will

be gratefully accepted for the nonprofit organization. All ages are welcome.

Founded by a small group of local individuals, KMUN went on the air on April 17, 1983, with Astorian Liam Dunne voicing the first words: "Welcome to the birth of a station."

Now called Coast Community Radio, KMUN is the only community station in the region, offering eclectic programming in diverse genres

of music as well as local and national public affairs, and children's programming. The station is also an NPR affiliate.

Since its founding, Coast Community Radio has literally weathered many a storm, including the historic Great Coastal Gale of 2007, when a tree crashed down on the studio. Programmer David Paul didn't miss a beat and kept right on going with his broadcast.

The station has also en-

dured a storm of a different kind, the perennial threat to defund the federal Corporation for Public Broadcasting, which provides one-fourth of the station's budget.

The Tillicum Foundation Board of Directors, which oversees the station and sets policy for it, is working to make the organization less reliant on the federal grant, in part by seeking other grants and holding various fundraisers.

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