



Sandcastle Contest keeps family connected

'THE SAND TRAP'



BRENNNA VISSER

Jonathan Jessop works on a windmill structure during the Cannon Beach Sandcastle Contest on Saturday, June 9.

By Brenna Visser
Cannon Beach Gazette

Thousands came out on Saturday, June 9, to watch people of all ages transform piles of sand into intricately-sculpted flying saucers, Egyptian pyramids and, of course, the humble but classic sandcastle.

The Sandcastle Contest, now closing the chapter on its 54th year, began in 1964 as a way to boost spirits after a tsunami hit the Oregon Coast. The contest was sandwiched in between the annual Sandcastle Parade on Friday and a 5K fun run on Sunday.

About 32 teams from across the country competed — a number consistent with last year but lower than the average of 50 the contest expects.

See Sandcastles, Page 7A



BRENNNA VISSER

The Jessop family says a cheer right before the kickoff of the Cannon Beach Sandcastle Contest.

Cannon Beach Academy dodges a big rent increase

With lease in hand for next two years, school looks at how to grow

By Brenna Visser
Cannon Beach Gazette

Cannon Beach Academy has a home for the next two years.

The academy agreed to a lease of \$100 a year with the city at the June 5 City Council meeting — up from the \$1 originally negotiated last year.

Originally, the city proposed raising rent from \$1 a year to \$1,000 a month — a steep increase, but one that was discussed

previously when the three-year contract was discussed last May, City Manager Bruce St. Denis said.

“The one that I had presented had a monthly payment of \$1,000, which I felt was in line with the sentiments expressed regarding future payments when the first lease was approved at \$1 a year,” St. Denis said to the City Council. “This is not a situation in which the city is trying to maximize our investment in the property, so you are obviously able to determine the

value that you think is appropriate.”

But the representatives from the academy argued the increase was too high as the new school still faces a \$58,000 budget deficit.

“When this started it was a grassroots efforts. We thought when we’d open the door there’d be a huge growth of support. It’s coming, but much it’s slower,” Cannon Beach Academy board secretary Patti Rouse said.

See Academy, Page 6A

Food truck licensing on city’s menu

Questionnaire will be sent out to business community to gauge interest

By Brenna Visser
Cannon Beach Gazette

Cannon Beach is exploring ways to possibly permit food trucks within city limits.

Food trucks are prohibited in Cannon Beach, with the exception of operating at the farmer’s market, as they currently fall under the city’s ban on “outdoor merchandising.” But the city is reexamining its ordinance after multiple presentations from Bob Neroni, owner of EVOO Cannon Beach Cooking School and food truck advocate, who initially came to the council months ago to find a legal way to operate a food cart in his own parking lot on the days his restaurant closes.

At a work session Tuesday, city councilors directed staff to work with Neroni to create and circulate a questionnaire around the restaurant community as a way to gauge interest.

While a rule change would stand to benefit him personally, Neroni believes food trucks are “a growing opportunity” that would improve and diversify Cannon Beach’s culinary scene.

“It’s an untapped, niche market,” Neroni said.

Food carts have long been a contentious issue in both Seaside and Cannon Beach. Part of what has kept food trucks at bay has been the fear they would create competition for brick-and-mortar businesses.

Some, like City Councilor George Vetter, fear allowing food trucks could allow transitory businesses to “cut in during the gravy season” of summer to make a profit without having to pay rent like their stationary competition. Food trucks could also take up parking spaces when the city most needs them.

“They would want to be here when parking is most valuable,” Vetter said.

See Food Trucks, Page 6A

New officer ready for challenge

Anderson brings unique skill set to Cannon Beach

By Brenna Visser
Cannon Beach Gazette

Before being able to serve, every police officer candidate in Oregon must pass a physical abilities test — think a police work-themed obstacle course.

The course involves balance beams, jumping under and over a variety of objects and racing up staircases. It’s a grueling feat, but Jacob Anderson — Cannon Beach Police Department’s newest recruit — couldn’t help but feel uniquely qualified.



BRENNNA VISSER/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

Jacob Anderson is the newest recruit at the Cannon Beach Police Department.

“The first time I saw it, I was like, ‘Ah — this is just like parkour,’” Anderson said.

Before becoming a police officer, Anderson spent the ma-

ajority of his life training as a gymnast, dancer, martial artist and parkour instructor.

See Anderson, Page 3A

PRSRST STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 97
ASTORIA, OR