

# Vote 'yes' on Clatsop County jail bond

As your elected sheriff of Clatsop County, I have always tried to do what is right for the majority of the people. This includes everyone, no matter what walk of life they may come from.

I can tell you all kinds of stories related to having an inadequate jail and the lack of accountability. We have more than 1,500 outstanding warrants. I can tell you people are released on a daily basis who consistently get out just hours or days after being arrested, then commit additional crimes at every level from shoplifting to domestic violence to murder.

I can tell you the vulnerable, mentally ill and those with drug dependencies default to the jail, where we do our best to take care of them — however, again due to lack of space, programs or proper treatment, real help is never fulfilled.

I can tell you the current jail was originally built for 29 inmates. It was overcrowded the day it opened almost 40 years ago in 1980.

Every study (four) over the

**GUEST COLUMN**  
TOM BERGIN



last 20 years has stated we need a minimum of 140 beds with room for future expansion. We have that opportunity now with the closing of the Oregon Youth Authority juvenile prison in Warrenton that was run by the state. It is in a good location away from neighborhoods and close to the current sheriff's office. We would be repurposing an old building into a modern facility able to meet the needs associated with keeping our community safe.

This building would not only create accountability for the incarcerated, but would also create a safer environment for mentally ill inmates. Most of them should not be there in the first place, but we often have many. It would also provide a better working environment for corrections deputies, mental health workers, drug and alcohol counsel-



COLIN MURPHEY/THE DAILY ASTORIAN

**The county hopes to use the old youth detention facility near Warrenton for an expanded new jail.**

ors, lawyers, doctors, nurses and clergy, all of whom work within the walls helping to create a place of rehabilitation and again accountability.

Some people say I want a remodeled jail because of my support of Measure 105, which would repeal

the state sanctuary law. They say I want to lock up all illegal immigrants. That is the furthest thing from the truth. It just doesn't happen like that. There are still many laws in place to protect everyone, no matter where they come from or what they believe. I have dedicated my life to

protecting rights and upholding the law. I will continue to do so as long as I serve as your sheriff.

However, without the accountability of incarceration — coupled with treatment and compassion — we are just spinning our wheels and not helping anyone to become productive, sober or mentally balanced to integrate back into society.

Think what you may about me, but know I have spent 33 years serving this community and doing my best to maintain the integrity of the law. Clatsop County is in dire need of a jail facility that will work with our criminal justice partners such as the courts, mental health and the previously mentioned numerous other entities.

Clatsop County is a beautiful place to live and a beautiful place to visit. If you truly want our community to be a safer place through accountability and compassion, please vote "yes" on Measure 4-195 to fix our current situation.

Thank you.

*Tom Bergin is sheriff of Clatsop County.*

## Author's debut novel brings alive Montana's settlement days

This month, the Northwest Authors Series hosts Portland author and journalist Ellen Notbohm. She will read from and discuss "The River by Starlight," her first novel, at the Cannon Beach Library, 130 N. Hemlock St., Saturday, Nov. 10, at 2 p.m.

Notbohm, internationally known for her award-winning books on parenting and teaching autistic children, spent years researching the true story on which she based this debut novel,



ELLEN NOTBOHM

**Ellen Notbohm reads at the Cannon Beach Library on Saturday, Nov. 10.**

set in Montana during the early 20th century.

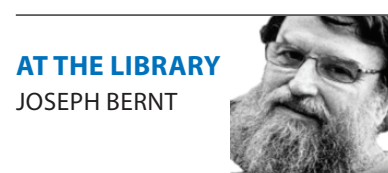
"The River by Starlight," which received the 2018 Independent Publisher Book Award for U.S. West-Mountain Regional Fiction, finds Annie Rushton moving to live on her brother's Montana homestead after leaving her child with an ex-husband following episodes of postpartum depression. Not planning to remarry, she encounters Adam Fielding. They buy out Annie's brother and form a business and romantic partnership. Efforts to have a child

prompt further depression, yet Annie still loves Adam. They persist and succeed in the face of difficulties.

### The world of Haystack Rock

At this fall's first meeting of Friends of Haystack Rock, Cristen Don, marine reserves program leader at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife in Newport, presents "World of Haystack Rock: There's More Beneath the Surface," Wednesday, Nov. 14, 7-8:30 p.m., at the library.

In leading the Oregon Marine Reserves Program, Don oversees the management and scientific monitoring of the state's five marine reserve sites at Cape Falcon, Cascade Head, Otter Rock, Cape Perpetua and Redfish Rocks. Each of these marine



**AT THE LIBRARY**  
JOSEPH BERNT

reserves, ranging in size from 1.2 to 14.1 square miles, is closed to ocean development and the taking of ocean fauna and flora.

Don, who holds a bachelor's degree in marine biology from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a master's degree in marine affairs from the University of Washington, has 15 years of experience in such ocean studies as marine protected areas, ocean renewable energy and fisheries.

### Lamp Lighting ceremony

The Library Holiday Tea and the Sandpiper Square Lamp Lighting Ceremony mark the traditional opening of the holiday season in Cannon Beach. Visit the library between 1 and 4 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1, to enjoy home-baked holiday cookies, tea, hot cider and conversation. Then cross Hemlock to enjoy the lamp lighting ceremony at 4 p.m.

During the Holiday Tea, the winning ticket for the vintage Grandmother's Flower Garden quilt will be drawn. Feeling lucky? Make a point of purchasing drawing tickets (\$1 each or \$5 for six) this month at the library.

All these events at the library are free and open to the public.

## LETTERS

Letters from Page 6A

### Vote for Risley, Benefield

Please join me in voting for Robin Risley and Mike Benefield for City Council, Cannon Beach.

These experienced candidates have each spent innumerable volunteer hours on city committees, serving the interests of the citizens of Cannon Beach. They offer a judicious balance of economic and environmental perspectives, which reflect the values of our residents.

All three candidates bring care and commitment to the community, but Robin and Mike stand out for longevity, experience, and balance.

Please vote! Let's set a record for voter turnout in Cannon Beach this fall.

**Betsy Bamford Ayres**  
Cannon Beach

### Risley, Benefield are most qualified

This council election, Robin Risley and Mike Benefield stand out regarding the need to balance the quality of life for residents versus maximizing the profits from tourism.

As a fifth-generation Oregonian and long-time Cannon Beach resident, Robin Risley is superbly qualified and experienced to serve on Council. She has served us well in numerous positions (including the Planning Commission and Parks and Community Services Committee) and has served us at the state level as an Oregon Parks and Recreation Department commissioner. Robin gets things done. She does her homework, is a good listener, has unshakable ethics, and makes good decisions. Risley has proven that she is willing to make the right decision, even when it might not favor her financially.

Similarly, we wholeheartedly support Mike Benefield's bid for a second term. Benefield has served on the Planning Commission and is currently on Council. As evidenced by his outstanding service on both bodies, Benefield has demonstrated that he will stand firm for what he knows is right and in the best interest of Cannon Beach. We are fortunate that he is willing to give more of his time and extensive

talents for our betterment.

Tourism of course adds a great deal to city coffers. Our businesses thrive because of it, and we all benefit when they are healthy. But there can be too much of a good thing. Over-selling any asset brings negative consequences. CB is no secret, and already the increasingly high numbers of visitors are affecting the quality of life for residents. There must be a balance. Robin Risley and Mike Benefield understand this and will continue to protect our village feel for residents first while responsibly managing the impact of visitors.

**Jeff and Jennifer Harrison**  
Cannon Beach

### Tiffany Mitchell for state representative

Three candidates are on the ballot to replace retiring District 32 State Representative Deborah Boone. Only one, Tiffany Mitchell, will be able to continue Boone's experience of working successfully on behalf of our local issues:

- Housing stability and availability for all of our families, at prices and rents that provide safe homes for all workers;

- Affordable health care, including treatment for substance abuse and mental health services;

- Stable funding for education at all levels, including career readiness and technical training, to reduce class sizes, improve the graduation rate and restore classes like physical education, art and music;

- Protection of our beautiful north coast, while investing wisely in our crumbling infrastructure; and

- Maintaining a strong economy, with safety and security for all.

Tiffany Mitchell will collaborate with like-minded legislators from around the state, and with state and local elected officials, to direct our scarce resources in ways that benefit the residents of District 32 as well as all Oregonians.

**Dan Seifer**  
Arch Cape

### Vote for Robin Risley

Cannon Beach residents have a unique opportunity to elect Robin Risley for a city

council seat who has years of experience from many positions held on local and statewide entities served on since the 1980s.

From chair of the annual Sandcastle Day committee, arts and environmental committee positions, member of city and county planning commissions, Realtor of the year (twice) lead sponsor of the curriculum and professional development committees to Oregon State Parks & Recreation commissioner and much more in between, Robin had demonstrated her leadership and consensus building work in both her professional and volunteer capacities. She brings a collaborative approach to city issues that concern councilors statewide, gained by her relationships with colleagues on the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department learning from others' efforts and mistakes how to solve the many municipal problems that small towns like Cannon Beach face.

If one considers all of the responsibilities that come with her broad experiences along with her ability to bring people together to find solutions she is well-qualified for this job. The variety of sectors in which Robin has served will make her effective from her first day on the job.

Please vote Nov. 6 and please vote for Robin Risley, Cannon Beach City Council.

**Deborah Boone**  
Cannon Beach

### Vote for Mike Benefield and Robin Risley

As I made my slow trip down Hemlock Street to get to my mail, I was overwhelmed by the number of visitors in our village. This may be good for business but it is not so good for the full time residents of Cannon Beach. We should strive for a better balance in quality of life/services for both our guests and residents.

I have worked on many community efforts with Mike Benefield and Robin Risley. They both recognize the local issues and understand how we can be good stewards and still be welcoming to visitors.

Please join me in supporting Mike and Robin for Cannon Beach City Council. They both have the hands-on experi-

ence to lead us in these times.

**Les Wierson**  
Cannon Beach

### Robin Risley for Cannon Beach council

I am writing this to give my full support to Robin Risley for Cannon Beach City Council.

I have known Robin for 30 or more years. She has served our community well with the many jobs she has done. Because Robin has lived, worked and enjoyed Cannon Beach's special ambiance for many years she understands the fierce love the local residences have for their village. Robin also knows that we must protect as much as we can of the village feeling, even though we have now become a destination resort, unfortunately.

The advertising of Cannon Beach all over the world was overkill in my mind. I have traveled in many parts of the world and whenever I mention Cannon Beach, the response is, "That's where Haystack Rock is."

Please vote for Robin. I am confident that we will not have

paid parking meters, high rise apartments and will still retain the village feeling.

**Molly Edison**  
Cannon Beach

### Vote for Swedenborg, Risley

I am writing in support of Greg Swedenborg and Robin Risley for Cannon Beach City Council. Cannon Beach is facing several important issues that need to be addressed by the community and its City Council. Those issues include affordable workforce housing, downtown parking, city hall's deteriorating condition, possible purchase of the old school property and development of the South Wind site. Because of the importance of these issues to our city's future, we must vote for the right City Council candidates.

Greg Swedenborg is the current President of the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce and sits on the city's Tourism and Arts Commission. A long-time resident, Greg is smart,

articulate, action oriented and is looking for a balance between the interests of Cannon Beach businesses and residents. Robin Risley, another long-time resident, has held positions in the city (Planning Commission, Tourism and Arts Commission and Parks Commission) as well as the business community.

Robin is currently the president of the local Realtors' association and has served on the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for many years. I believe this experience gives Robin the ability to see both sides of the issues we face and make decisions beneficial to the entire community. For the past couple of terms, we've watched our city council's inability to make decisions. During those years, the problems haven't resolved themselves. We need a city council that is going to tackle the issues and make decisions. I support Greg Swedenborg and Robin Risley for Cannon Beach City Council and ask you to do the same.

**Steven Sinkler**  
Cannon Beach

## THANK YOU SO MUCH!

On behalf of all of our members, volunteers and most importantly, THE KIDS who benefit from our programs, the Assistance League of the Columbia Pacific would like to thank everyone who made the 11th Annual Home & Chef Tour a huge success!

**HOME & CHEF**  
**TOUR**

**AL**  
assistance league  
of the  
Columbia Pacific

**Home Owners:** Daniel & Nicole Sturgell, Michael & Becky Johnson, Sami & Bill Weed, Kristin Finnegan & Larry Grant, Ira & Linda Goldfarb, and Traci Williams

**Home Sponsors:** Dr. Roger & Sheila Miller, Dr. Russ & Linda Keizer, Dr. Richard & Barbara Crass, Dr. David & Cindy Leibel, US Bank, TOTEM Properties, Englund Marine Industrial Supply, Auto Company, and Bigby's Tree Service.

**Chefs:** Nisa's Thai Kitchen, El Catrin Mexican Cuisine, Finn's Fish House, Drake Radditz Guide Service, The Wayfarer Restaurant, and The Sweet Shop

**Florists:** Bloomin' Crazy, Natural Nook, and Erickson Floral

**Graphic Design:** Buckelew Graphic Communications

**Poster & Cover Art:** Cory Logan

**Printer:** Anchor Graphics

Assistance League of the Columbia Pacific is a nonprofit, all-volunteer, organization whose philanthropic programs promote the well-being and self-esteem of children and teens throughout Clatsop County.

To learn more or get involved please visit [www.assistanceleaguecp.org](http://www.assistanceleaguecp.org)