



Water shortages force Falcon Cove to look for alternatives

By **BRENNA VISSER**
Cannon Beach Gazette

Clatsop County won't issue building permits for the next six months in Falcon Cove while the local water district tries to figure out how to solve a water shortage. The Falcon Cove Beach Water District voted for a six-month moratorium at the end of December on new water connections in the unincorporated community south of Arch Cape after facing periodic shortages.

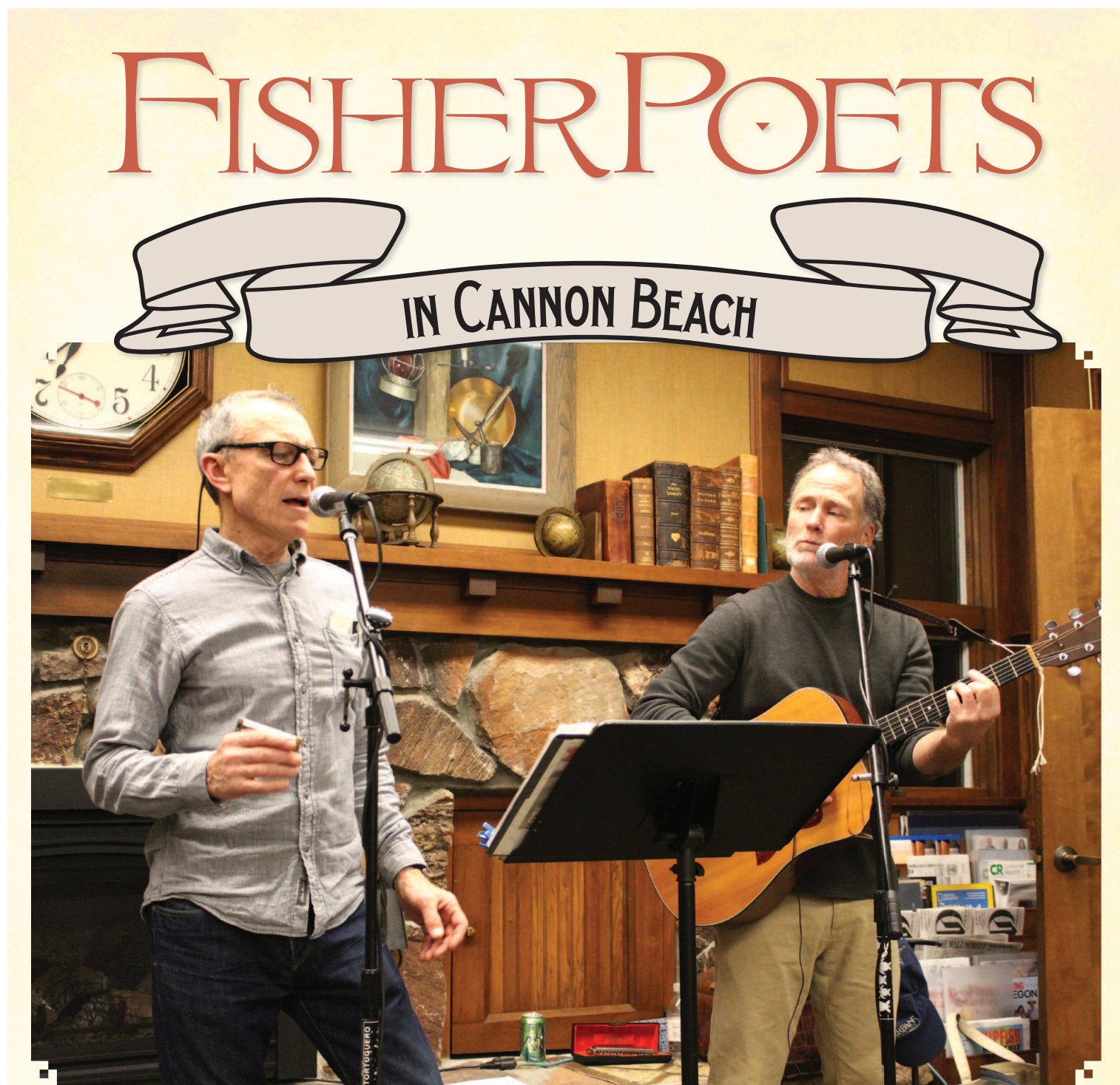
For the past three years, water production has been at record low levels during the late summer months, with flows as low as 30 gallons per minute — a rate that does not adequately supply the system's reservoirs.

"If this rate went lower or was sustained over several days it would significantly impact the system's ability to supply water," according to a memo from the water district. So far, the moratorium has only impacted two people hoping to build homes. But in the long term, the situation is forcing the water district to look for alternatives. The county is also reconsidering how the water district can prove properties can be served by enough water.

The issue in Falcon Cove was presented last week to the county Board of Commissioners. Some commissioners see access to water as a long-term challenge for several special districts across the county, especially as the population in rural areas continues to grow.

Commissioner Kathleen Sullivan said many people who live on the coast don't think there is a water shortage. "This brings home the reality that, yes, water is our concern also, and that we need to be mindful of that," she said.

See Water, Page A6



Katherine Lacaze

Jon Broderick (right), of Cannon Beach, and Jay Speakman, of Gearhart. Broderick is one of the co-founders and organizers of the annual FisherPoets Gathering event in Astoria.

By **KATHERINE LACAZE**
For Cannon Beach Gazette

Five fisherpoets from the Lower Columbia River region joined voices at the Cannon Beach Library for a laughter-riddled and intimately illuminating poetry reading during "An Evening With Fisherpoets," held Jan. 17 as part of the library's Northwest Author Series.

The event, which drew about three dozen attendees, also served as a sort of appetizer, providing a taste of what is to

come at the annual FisherPoets Gathering in Astoria, which takes place this year Feb. 22 through 24. Fisherpoetry is not only an engaging niche literary art form, but also captures a part of the culture in the region, said Phyllis Bernt, co-president of the library board. Through poetic musings, recollections, and other accounts, the poets share about working in the commercial fishing industry, which is prominent in the Pacific North-

west, making the material particularly relatable. They can "tap into people's feelings" about the area and industry, Bernt said. The poets bring their own style, not only in the words themselves, but also their delivery. The experiences they recount run the gamut from personal to historical, from sorrowful to humorous, and from raw and realistic to overly exaggerated.

See Fisherpoets, Page A10

'SO REALISTIG IT'S BEEN KNOWN TO GAUSE A SEA-SICKNESS-LIKE FEELING AMONG THOSE WHO ARE LISTENING.'

ROB SEITZ, DESCRIBING HIS FISHERPOETRY

School district markets properties

Cannon Beach sale eyed this spring

By **KATHERINE LACAZE and R.J. MARX**
Cannon Beach Gazette

Three Seaside School District's properties will go to the real estate market this spring, as the district plans on selecting Norris & Stevens Real Estate to represent the sales of Gearhart Elementary School, Broadway Middle School and Seaside High School.

The schools will be sold, to be replaced by a new campus outside the tsunami zone.

After a request for proposals, three commercial real estate brokers, each based in Portland with a local component, responded.

Building and grounds committee members conducted interviews with three commercial real estate brokers before selecting Norris & Stevens.

Board members Lori Lum and Mark Truax, who served on the committee, said the group rated applicants on a variety of factors, including price, references, past experience, and knowledge and understanding of the market.

Patrick Nofield said Norris & Stevens was "head and shoulders" above the other two agencies. At the meeting, he moved that the district hire Norris & Stevens to sell the three district properties.

The company reached out the board chairman Steve Phillips in June 2018 to discuss the properties and express interest in representing the district.

"When it came to this process of picking, I took myself completely out of it because I had had contact with them earlier," Phillips said. "I was truly impressed when they initially sat down with me, the homework they had done."

Truax agreed that when it came to the formal interview, they did not "go in blindly," but have already articulated a plan for how they will go about the sell.

As per their plan, "They want to see something once they get it listed, and they weren't going to let it just sit there for a number months," Truax

See Properties, Page A7



Dave Fisher/For Cannon Beach Gazette
Cynthia Alamillo, the new city manager of Manzanita.

Manzanita welcomes city manager

Thus far, change has been good for the El Paso native

By **DAVE FISHER**
For Cannon Beach Gazette

Four months into her new job as Manzanita City Manager Cynthia Alamillo still can't believe how "things fell into place" as she looks back on an odyssey that eventually brought her to the north Oregon coast.

Born and raised in El Paso, Texas, Alamillo was the oldest of three children. Her parents, seeking a new start and better life, had previously immigrated to the United States from Ciudad Juarez just across the Mexican border. Upon graduation from high school, she studied at the University of Texas at El Paso where she attained her undergrad-

uate degree in Supply Chain Management. Her interest in higher education didn't end there, however. With an interest in public administration as a career she followed her younger brother to Portland, Oregon, where she enrolled at Portland State University and received her master's degree in 2015.

"My brother already had job opportunities in Portland and the timing was right," said Alamillo. "I fell in love with Portland State and Oregon, and things have just continued."

Upon graduation from PSU and as part of her continuing education she interned for two months with the cities of West Linn and Sherwood. It wasn't long afterwards, in conducting an online search for employment opportunities in her chosen field, she discovered such an opportunity in Manzanita. In January 2017 Alamillo went to work for the city

See Manzanita, Page A6