

LISTENING TO THE LAND

Learning to live in harmony with the Oregon beaver

By **KATHERINE LACAZE**
For Cannon Beach Gazette

Land event at Seaside Public Library on March 20.

For several years, wildlife biologist and Beaver State Wildlife Solutions owner Jakob Shockey has developed and implemented anti-lethal solutions to help property owners deal with beavers and the challenges they can present when they take up residence.

Shockey, who grew up on a farm in the Siskiyou Mountains, shared various ideas and solutions during his presentation “Resolving Conflicts with Beaver Using Natural Science and Design” at the Necanicum Watershed Council’s Listening to the

Beavers can create problems for land owners in two primary ways: Building dams that block waterways and/or cause flooding, and tree mortality, or cutting down trees, in particular. To resolve these conflicts, land owners have a number of options, including trapping, relocating or killing them.

Currently, killing beavers is easily accomplished from a legal standpoint, Shockey said. For public land purposes, they are classified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as “furbearers,” which allows hunters to kill them with a furbearer license. When it comes to



Katherine Lacaze

Jakob Shockey, a wildlife biologist and owner of Beaver State Wildlife Solutions.

private property, the Oregon Department of Agriculture defines the beaver as a

“predatory rodent” — similar to a mouse or an opossum — which allows land owners to kill them without limit.

Shockey’s goal, however, is to help residents instead pursue predictive management, which includes working within the ecosystems of streams, rivers and wetlands and implementing long-term and cost-effective solutions that serve as alternatives to bullets and bait.

“If you’ve got beaver at your site, that means it is good beaver habitat,” he said. “If you open that niche up, there is going to be another population at some point.... You start getting on a treadmill of removal — doesn’t matter if it’s lethal

removal or relocation. If you’re taking animals out of a territory that’s been deemed high-value by the animal, there are going to be more that come in.”

When it comes to tree-cutting, Shockey said, effective solutions include surrounding the base and root collar with welded 2”-by-4” wire at least 30” inches above the ground and 24” above the snow line; and covering the surface of a tree base with a mixture of latex paint and clean, dry sand. For large areas, such as orchards or crop fields, land owners also can consider electric fences, as long as they maintain the vegetation beneath the fence.

To address flooding —

the other primary conflict, which can cause impoundment and damage to urban infrastructure and cropland — Shockey suggests installing flow devices. They fall into three main categories: flexible pond levelers; trap-ezoidal culvert fences; and fence and pipe systems.

In all cases, the devices capitalize on natural science and beaver behavior to address potential negative ramifications of damming without relocating or harming wildlife. Shockey pointed out a potential issue with flow devices is property owners can be held liable if they alter a beaver dam and it causes flooding on neighboring property.

Coast Happenings Calendar YOUR GUIDE TO MUSIC, ART, COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL EVENTS ON THE NORTH COAST

Friday, April 5

“Living on Love”

7:30 p.m., Coaster Theatre Playhouse, 108 North Hemlock St., Cannon Beach; coastertheatre.com, 503-436-1242.

Bill Hayes

5-7 p.m., Cheri’s Cafe, guitar; 239 N. Hemlock, Cannon Beach, 503-436-1129.

Wes Wahrmund

6-9 p.m., The Bistro, guitar, 263 N. Hemlock, Cannon Beach; 503-436-2661.

Maggie & the Katz

6:30 p.m., Sweet Basil’s Café, 271 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1539, www.cafesweetbasils.com, no cover, 21+. Maggie & the Katz play blues, soul and rhythm-n-blues.

Saturday, April 6

Story Hour

10 a.m., North Tillamook Library, 571 Laneda Ave., Manzanita, 503-368-6665.

Nehalem Valley Historical Society

1-4 p.m., 225 Laneda Ave., Manzanita; 503-368-7460.

Snowy plover monitoring training

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Cannon Beach City Hall. Presented by Cape Falcon Marine Reserve; CapeFalconMR@gmail.com; 503-702-4869.

Gearhart ArtWalk

2-5 p.m., galleries and refreshments, 656 “A” Street, Gearhart, 503-717-9458

Wes Wahrmund

6-9 p.m., The Bistro, guitar, 263 N. Hemlock, Cannon Beach; 503-436-2661.

UMPHY

7 p.m., Public Coast Brewing Co., 264 E. Third St., Cannon Beach; 503-436-0285.

Terry Robb

7:30 p.m., blues artist, double-bill with Ty Curtis; North Coast Recreation District Performing Center, 36155 9th Street, Nehalem; 855-444-6273.

Whale Spirit Drum Circle

7-8 p.m., all welcome to gather and drum together; no drumming experience is necessary. Check www.WhaleSpirit.com to confirm location each month. Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside.

“Living on Love”

7:30 p.m., Coaster Theatre Playhouse, 108 North Hemlock St., Cannon Beach; coastertheatre.com, 503-436-1242.

Sunday, April 7

Bunny and eggrock painting

Noon, Freehand presents; MacGregor’s Whiskey Bar, 387 Laneda Ave., Manzanita.

Open Gallery

1-4 p.m., Hoffman Center for the Arts, 594 Laneda Ave., Manzanita; 503-368-3846.

“Living on Love”

3 p.m., Coaster Theatre Playhouse, 108 North Hemlock St., Cannon Beach; coastertheatre.com, 503-436-1242.

Whole Systems Ecological Restoration

5:30 p.m., “Rethinking the Role of Invasive Species” with Tao Orion; St. Catherine’s Episcopal Church; 36335 N Hwy 101, Nehalem.

Maggie & the Katz

5:30-8 p.m., live music, the Bistro, 263 N. Hemlock, Cannon Beach; 503-436-2661.

Aubrie Williams

6-8 p.m., eclectic soulful presentation, Seasons Cafe, 255 N. Hemlock; 503-436-1159.

Monday, April 8

Burgers & Jam

6:30 p.m., American Legion, 1216 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2973. The Legion offers burgers and music on Monday nights.

Eat the Invaders

5:30-8 p.m., dinner with Andy Catalano featuring Japanese knotweed, held at the Salmonberry Saloon, 380 Marine Drive, Wheeler.

Tuesday, April 9

Writer’s Lounge

10:30 a.m., Hoffman Center for the Arts, 594 Laneda Ave., Manzanita, 503-368-3846.

Wednesday, April 10

Wednesday morning meeting

8 a.m., Hosted by the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce, Pizza A’ Fetta, upstairs, 231 N. Hemlock.

Spring break family fun

1-4 p.m., Pine Grove Communi-

ty House, Manzanita; 503-812-5510

Thistle and Rose

5-7:30 p.m., folk/American; The Bistro, 263 N. Hemlock, Cannon Beach; 503-436-2661.

Thursday, April 11

Sugar Thistles

5:30-7:30 p.m., folk/pop duo; The Bistro, 263 N. Hemlock, Cannon Beach; 503-436-2661.

Floating Glass Balls

7-9 p.m., Bill’s Tavern, folk, blues and “beachgrass,” 188 N. Hemlock. Cannon Beach; 503-436-2202.

Friday, April 12

Bill Hayes

5-7 p.m., Cheri’s Cafe, guitar; 239 N. Hemlock, Cannon Beach, 503-436-1129.

Wes Wahrmund

6-9 p.m., The Bistro, guitar, 263 N. Hemlock, Cannon Beach; 503-436-2661.

Maggie & the Katz

6:30 p.m., Sweet Basil’s Café, 271 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1539, www.cafesweetbasils.com, no cover, 21+. Maggie & the Katz play

blues, soul and rhythm-n-blues.

“Living on Love”

7:30 p.m., Coaster Theatre Playhouse, 108 North Hemlock St., Cannon Beach; coastertheatre.com, 503-436-1242.

Saturday, April 13

Drawing Puffins

With Brianna Ortega; the Cannon Beach Association; 1064 S. Hemlock; 503-436-0744.

Nehalem Valley Historical Society

1-4 p.m., 225 Laneda Ave., Manzanita; 503-368-7460.

Snowy plover monitoring training

10 a.m.-2 p.m., Nehalem Bay State Park. Presented by Cape Falcon Marine Reserve; CapeFalconMR@gmail.com; 503-702-4869.

Wes Wahrmund

6-9 p.m., The Bistro, guitar, 263 N. Hemlock, Cannon Beach; 503-436-2661.

Britnee Kellogg

7 p.m., Public Coast Brewing Co., 264 E. Third St., Cannon Beach; 503-436-0285.

RE/MAX

Coastal Advantage

CoastalAdvantage.com

2 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU!

219 N. Hemlock, Cannon Beach 503.436.1777

430 Laneda, Manzanita 503.368.1777

Member of 2 MLS Systems Each office is independently owned & operated

Find us on Facebook
[/REMAXCoastalAdvantage](#)

All brokers listed are licensed in the State of Oregon

1868 PACIFIC

Cannon Beach • \$3,495,000

187 W MADISON

Cannon Beach • \$1,485,000

26650 BEACH STREET

OCEAN FRONT!

Rockaway • \$950,000

89916 MANION DR

NEW LISTING

Surf Pines • \$798,000

896 BEACH STREET

SALE PENDING

Manzanita • \$795,000

191 1ST STREET

Cannon Beach • \$739,000

187 SUSITNA

Cannon Beach • \$695,000

724 N PROM

Seaside • \$673,000

123 S HEMLOCK #201

Cannon Beach • \$649,000

3824 S HEMLOCK

SALE PENDING

Cannon Beach • \$569,900

1306 N FRANKLIN

Seaside • \$499,000

89750 OCEAN DR

NEW LISTING

OCEAN FRONT!

Surf Pines • \$449,000

SCAN HERE to go to our website

216 E MONROE

NEW PRICE

Cannon Beach • \$439,000

4039 S PACIFIC

Cannon Beach • \$395,000

88778 MALLARD COURT

NEW LISTING

Gearhart • \$395,000

360 SW JADE

NEW LISTING

Warrenton • \$349,900

607 VILLAGE TERRACE

SALE PENDING

Seaside • \$319,000

115 NW CEDAR AVE

New Construction

SALE PENDING

Warrenton • \$317,500

1651 9TH

SALE PENDING

Astoria • \$296,900

V/L 9TH AND HEMLOCK

1.45 Acres

Cannon Beach • \$239,000

LET US WORK FOR YOU!

“Real Estate standards for those with ‘Higher’ Expectations. RE/MAX above the crowd!”