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# CANNON BEACH GAZETTE



## A brave crew will be selected as 'Tilly' is due for a makeover ahead of columbarium plans

**Miska Salemann**  
For the Gazette

She once stood as a beacon of light about a mile offshore, guiding ships through the rough waters of the Columbia River Bar. But over the last 142 years, the Tillamook Rock Lighthouse has undergone some magnificent changes.

The lighthouse's owner, Mimi Morisette, has grand plans for her beloved 'Tilly.' Since she purchased the building for \$50,000 in 1980, the real estate investor has worked tirelessly at her dream to turn the deactivated lighthouse into a columbarium, with the capacity to hold the cremated remains of roughly 300,000 people.

Being raised near the Cape Florida Lighthouse, Morisette grew up with an admiration for the sea, and also for the structures that guided the boats to shore. "They were not only a symbol of light, they actually saved a lot of lives, one of their most important jobs was functional. They defended in war times," she pointed out.

Morisette hopes that by turning 'Tilly' into a columbarium, she can give hundreds of thousands of people the opportunity to find their final resting place in a location that represents the perpetuity and vastness of the ocean. But, there's also more to it.

The data demonstrates the industry has taken off. Back in 1975, the cremation rate in the United States hovered just over 5%. As of 2021, it reached approximately 58%, and is forecasted to climb even more over the next few years.



Tillamook Rock Lighthouse. Courtesy photo

"I can pretty much tell you that there are at least one million people that are related to those people that are going to want to come to the Oregon coast or they're going to want to buy things from Tillamook Rock," Morisette explained. "The economic fusion that is going to happen to the north coast, I think the coast is going to be shocked."

Morisette's mission can't be achieved without a brave crew of volunteers. The last time a crew cleaned up the lighthouse was in 2019. A trip planned for late March will be aimed at painting the building, making small repairs,

excavating retired materials for art souvenirs, and evicting the sea lions who have kicked through the doors and are enjoying a rent-free stay in the building.

Of course, this expedition is no luxury vacation. Morisette must be very careful with the volunteers she selects, noting that camping on an isolated basaltic island less than an acre in size can feel like "being in a third world country."

Yet, when it came time to look for eight volunteers for her upcoming clean-up trip, Morisette was immediately swamped with requests from people wanting to help. The trouble has been build-

ing a strong team that consists of experienced and physically-able individuals.

Some people have expressed concerns over the lack of utilities on the rock, unpredictable weather trends and potential exposure to disease.

Liz Scott, the Outreach Manager at Cannon Beach History Center, notes that a trip out to Tilly has been a dangerous feat since her conception, especially back when crews were stationed on the rock for extended periods of time.

"Originally, a lighthouse keeper

■ See **TILLY**, Page 2



## Council approves no-parking zone on 5th Street

**Will Chappell**  
Gazette Reporter

Cannon Beach's city council reversed a design review board decision at their March 7 meeting, paving the way for an expansion to public restrooms in midtown.

A new no-parking zone was added on 5th Street after a lengthy discussion of right of ways was spurred by a homeowner's application for a waiver to plant trees in the right of way in front of their yard.

Councilors also approved an increase the cost-of-living adjustment that will be handed out to all city employees on July 1. Previous contracts with unions representing the police and other city employees had called for a 2% increase, but in light of the high rate of inflation councilors unanimously voted to offer a 5% raise.

The council reviewed the decision made by the design review board at their January meeting to deny the plans submitted by city staff to expand the public restrooms in midtown.

The board justified its denial by saying that the proposed expansion would duplicate existing facilities while removing landscaping and failing to offer gender-inclusive or family restrooms.

Bill Kabeiseman, an attorney who consults with the city on land use matters, said that the design review board was only tasked with reviewing the exterior design elements of proposed buildings for conformity with the code.

City Planner Robert St. Clair said that considering this mandate, the review board had strayed from its purview in denying the city's application and asked the council to reverse the decision.

Councilors discussed the matter at length, making a point of saying they respected the work of the design review board, but agreed that the city's charter and codes were not on their side. The council voted unanimously to reverse the decision and provisionally approve the planned expansion ahead of final plans being presented at a meeting later this month or in April.

They asked staff to include a family friendly and gender-neutral restroom in the final plans as well as a water bottle filling station.

The council then launched into an even more expansive discussion of the parking situation on 5th Street, spurred by an application for a waiver to leave trees planted in the right of way. The waiver application from homeowners Jon and Doreen Broderick sought approval for three pacific wax myrtle trees that they planted in the right of way in front of their yard in spring 2022.

Public Works Director Karen La Bonte said that the trees' root systems would threaten intrusion of utility pipes installed under the right of way and that city ordinances prohibited such deep-rooted plants in the right of way.

However, La Bonte explained that lax code enforcement in the past due to short staffing had allowed other properties on 5th Street to install landscaping that did not comply with code.

La Bonte and City Manager Bruce St. Denis acknowledged the

■ See **CITY**, Page 3

## Go-Bags explained: The tool you hope you never have to use

**Deb Atiyeh**  
Reporter

When a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake eventually happens, you will have a slim hand-full of minutes to get to a safe place on high ground before the ensuing tsunami inundates low-lying areas. In the chaos immediately after a big earthquake and tsunami, and in the following 24+ hours, you will be dependent on what you can carry. A "Go-Bag" will be your lifeline; a manageable and comprehensive package of survival supplies.

Every place in Cannon Beach has a nearby safe assembly area, which is located on high ground above the tsunami zone. Get to one of these locations as quickly as you can. Do not depend on your car; roads will likely be impassable. Once at the assembly area, you are safe from the tsunami; but new dangers, such as weather conditions, are a big concern.

Design your Go-Bag with three main concepts: Is it manageable for you to carry in a hurry for a distance? Is it always readily at hand for you to grab and go? Is it comprehensive enough to survive a cold, wet night alone in the elements?

A Go-Bag should not be so large that it is a bag of bricks the size of steamer trunk. Be thoughtful and precise when designing your Go-Bag. There are many lists from many different people, but design a list to fit you and your situation. Not all people need the same supplies, and not all Go-Bag's need to be the same. Some suggest having several

Go-Bag's: home, car, work and school are all places you should consider. Start by designing a Go-Bag for where you spend most of your time. A small hip-bag for dog walking, a backpack at the office, or a duffel bag in the car. Go-Bag's need not be expensive or complex. An inexpensive Go-Bag can be just as useful as an expensive one. Be judicious when shopping for your Go-Bag.

A comprehensive Go-Bag that covers five main concerns is the goal: Shelter/Clothing, Water, Food, 1st-Aid and Hygiene/Sanitation. Which is the most important? In our magical coastal location, the most critical one is protection from the elements; good outdoor clothing with several layers for warmth.

In a Cascadia-level worst-case situation, a person may survive days without food, as uncomfortable as that may sound. Water is more critical; dehydration can be disabling after a day or two. But the rain, wind and cold can kill in a matter of hours. It's also important to be able to keep body and surroundings clean and sanitary. Disease and infection may not be as fast, but are just as deadly. Hygiene and sanitary practices are very important when the situation is dire and difficult.

Your Go-Bag is your small bundle of insurance for the most unlikely, yet most disastrous natural disasters we will ever see here in Cannon Beach. Be proactive; do not depend on others. Creating a Go-Bag is a small effort with big rewards when needed most.

Some type of Go-Bag is essential for everywhere you travel. This is not just a list for coastal residents; this is a recommendation for everyone who is focused on not being a victim, but a survivor. Being a survivor means that you are not the one who needs immediate help and resources, and that you are able to assist those in need.

See the accompanying "List of Go-Bag Essentials". Watch for a Go-Bag training offered by Cannon Beach CERT near your neighborhood.

- List of "Go-Bag" Essentials**
- The goal is to be able to stay alive and reasonably comfortable for 12 to 24 hours
  - 1 - Rain Gear or Poncho: Staying dry is key to staying alive
  - 2 - Layers of Extra Clothing: Preferably synthetic fleece or wool
  - 3 - Stocking Cap or Hat: A large percentage of body heat can



- be lost through the head
- 4 - Gloves: Keep hands warm and protected from cuts and scratches
- 5 - Dry Socks: Keep feet warm
- 6 - Tarp or Sheet of Heavy Plastic: When you get to a safe place this may be the only possible shelter
- 7 - Compact Foil Emergency Blanket: Helps Retain Body Heat. Windproof and Waterproof
- 8 - Fire Starter Material with Lighter or Waterproof Matches: Staying warm is key to staying alive
- 9 - Water Bottle (minimum 32 ounces) Water Filter or Water Purification Tablets
- 10 - Food: Protein Bars, Nuts, Dried Fruit, Trail Mix, Jerky
- 11 - Small Flashlight or Headlamp: Include extra batteries
- 12 - First Aid Kit: Bandages, Antibiotic Ointment, Medications, Hand Sanitizer, Small Folding Scissors

- Other Items to Consider**
- Small Folding Knife or "Leatherman's Tool"
  - 25-50 feet of Heavy-Duty Nylon String or Twine
  - Small Roll of Duct Tape
  - Sanitizing Wipes, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels
  - Large Plastic Garbage Bags: Keep Clothes Dry, Improvised Poncho, Ground Cover
  - Foam Pad: Protection from cold, wet ground
  - Chemical Hand Warmers
  - Glow Sticks and Whistle: Will allow you to be seen and heard
  - Map of Area: Waterproof or

■ See **GO BAGS**, Page 2

# Microplastics in oceans increase as U.N. signs ocean treaty

**Bob Atiyeh**  
For the Gazette

The worldwide production of plastic has increased rapidly over the past two decades, and there are now an estimated 82 to 358 trillion plastic particles floating in the top 12 inches of the world's oceans, or an estimated average of 21,000 pieces of ocean plastic for each one of the 8 billion people on earth. Researchers found that the amount of plastic in the world's oceans began to skyrocket around 2005, reflecting the exponential increase in plastic production, with the amount doubling about every 6 years. The increase in ocean plastic reflects the increase of

plastic found on the world's beaches. The worldwide production of plastic is now 1 trillion pounds a year, with production predicted to more than triple by 2050. Less than 10% of the plastic ever produced has been recycled, with the remaining 90% ending up in landfills, incinerated or washed directly into rivers and ocean. These plastics eventually break down into smaller and smaller particles, called microplastics. These tiny plastic particles are eaten by microscopic marine animals called zooplankton, and fish larvae consume these plastic particles when they eat the zooplankton. Microplastics have been found in shellfish, such as clams, crabs and

mussels. Some seabirds are suffering from the effects of consuming plastic particles, with birds and their chicks starving to death due to the amount of plastic in their stomachs, which they mistake for food while foraging. Plastics are not just in the oceans, but are polluting every biome on earth. Plastic particles have been found near the summit of Mt. Everest, in mountain streams far from civilization, in the soil, and in the deepest ocean trenches. Microscopic



particles of plastic, known as nanoplastics, are small enough to penetrate human cells, and have been found

in human lung tissue, the bloodstream, the GI tract, placentas and in infant's first feces.

Negotiators at the United

See **PLASTIC**, Page 3

## Go Bags

Continued from Page 1

Laminated  
- Compass or GPS: Ability to Navigate

- Personal Documents, ID, Cash, Eyeglasses, Cell Phone, Plastic Zip-Lock Bags

Don't make your Go-Bag too heavy, too large, or too difficult to handle

### Go-Bag vs. Cache Kit

The Go-Bag and Cache Kit have many things in common. A Cache Kit should be more encompassing, and it will be larger, heavier and more comprehensive. It should have top-quality supplies and is intended for secure, comfortable, long-term survival.

The Go-Bag is for the quick grab-and-go situation where you need to quickly get away from your home or car. Keep a Go-Bag in the car, at home or work, and any other place where you spend time. This means you may need several Go-Bags. By keeping these small and light, less expensive but adequate, you can have emergency support wherever

you are.

The Go-Bag will get you through the worst. Your Cache Kit will be waiting for you at the City Container Project. Your Go-bag will help get you there and keep you safe while waiting for the container to be opened.

### Go-Bags for Pets

Pets are important members of your family, so they need to be included in your family's emergency plan. If a natural disaster strikes, what will happen to your pet? To prepare for the unexpected, follow these tips with your pets in mind: Make a Plan, Build a "Go-Bag" for Your Pet, and Stay Informed.

1. Food: 2-week supply in waterproof, airtight contain-

ers

- 2. Water and Bowl
- 3. Any Medications
- 4. Roll of Plastic Waste Bags

5. Extra Collar with ID tags, Leash and Harness  
6. Medical Records, Along with Name and Contact Information for Your Veterinarian

Make sure that your pet has a microchip; record the number and keep the contact information up-to-date

The Cannon Beach Disaster Animal Response Team (CBDART) is a volunteer organization committed to assisting the community and pet owners alike, with emergency preparedness and caching of supplies for domestic animals. Our

organization coordinates and collaborates on the training necessary to ensure effective emergency response, veterinarian first-aid and companion-to-family reunification. Our volunteers mobilize to bring structure, skill, comfort and compassion to both prevent and mitigate the consequences of disaster.

The Disaster Animal Response Team will be meeting Wednesday, March 29th at 7:00 PM at Tolovana Hall. If you are interested or would like to join, please come to the meeting to learn more.

(Information provided by CERT Team Leader Sam Seidel)

## Tilly

Continued from Page 1

that was assigned to the rock spent three months on and two weeks off," Scott explained. "The assignment was changed to 42 days on and 21 days off, because conditions proved extremely harsh on both the physical and mental stability of the keepers."

Over the years, two of Tilly's patrons lost their lives. In 1979, a mason tumbled into the ocean, and in 1911 a painter lost his footing on a ladder, succumbing to the rocks below him.

Scott added that unpredictable weather was a particular fear for visitors. One storm that occurred in 1934 caused the waves to go over the tower, destroying the original Fresnel lens. "It is extremely impressive that Tilly has lasted as long as she has

mainly due to the amount of storms this coast has seen," Scott noted.

The historical center believes that the lighthouse is not only a piece of the past, but also has a place in the future. "Even people that are afraid of the ocean can't help but daydream about 'Tilly.'"

It is important to Cannon Beach in the same way that Haystack Rock is, and it's a rare treat that we can stand on our shore and see her," added Andrea Suarez-Kemp, the Center's Development Manager.

"Tilly's" owner hopes to keep that memory alive, and believes that March is the best month to do it. Morisette assures that the safest time to make a trip out to the island is just after the Winter storms have passed. When it turns towards Spring, the decent weather makes for smoother waters.

Plus, Morisette predicts that many Cannon Beach

visitors will want to take a piece of 'Tilly' with them to commemorate their trip to the coast. She is hopeful that the turbulent tides of January and February have left behind some historical raw materials that she can bring back to local Cannon Beach artists for rejuvenation. She believes that "there's a lot to salvage."

In addition to the unstable conditions of the sea, others fear what lies on the inside of the lighthouse.

Since the building has been abandoned for quite some time, it is likely that it has been overtaken by a massive sea lion haul-out.

Melissa Janicek, who is a licensed Veterinary Technician and has spent years working with marine rescue organizations in Maine and Oregon, is particularly worried about Leptospirosis, an infectious bacterial disease that occurs in mammals and can be transmitted to humans.

"We do know here in Or-

gon that the animal with the most Leptospirosis cases that people and animals come into contact with is the California Sea Lion population," Janicek noted. She explained that the virus can be contracted through skin abrasions, but it can also be inhaled, depending on the environmental factors.

According to Janicek, there are "pretty serious precautions" to take when coming into contact with sea lions that could carry the disease. "So, having untrained volunteers, exposing themselves to those things, to me seems pretty risky," she confessed.

If it was up to Janicek, she would be using "all the personal protective equipment you can get," including gloves, rubber boots, rubber jackets, and eye, mouth, and nose coverage. "If people are going to be doing that as volunteers, I really think that they need training, some pretty serious safety training, and also they need to be made very clearly aware of the risks."

When asked about her position of Leptospirosis prevention, Morisette admitted that she had not heard about the virus, but she does plan to take necessary steps to protect the crew.

"It will take about 24 hours to air out the building, and I am looking at probably getting some masks, like some respiratory type of masks, to prevent what you're talking about right now for anybody that's working in the building that feels they need the mask," she responded.

Morisette added that she has already selected three of the members of the crew who have already been on the island and are accustomed to taking safety precautions.

More than anything, the aspirational lighthouse owner hopes that the March trip can be treated as a starting-point for future long-term repair projects. "Everything will eventually be replaced with titanium, the windows, and the doors, this little trip is just the prequel to what we will do in October."

Morisette points out that there are many memorial sites in ruins across the world, and the cemetery industry does not want to stand behind the lighthouse columbarium plans unless the building is brought back into good shape. Morisette is set on making it happen, "I want longevity."

She admits that not all people are on board with her idyllic plans. "People either get it or don't get it."

But in her eyes, the project will be worth the price of putting up with the so-called 'high maintenance girl.'

At the Library

She was no angel

Phyllis Bernt
Library Board President

Since we are in the middle of Women's History Month, it seems only fitting to feature a novel written by a woman about a female character in a quintessentially feminine novel.

"Marmee" by Sarah Miller tells the story of Margaret March, the mother of the four daughters in Louisa May Alcott's enduring classic "Little Women."

While "Little Women" centers on the experiences of the March daughters, Miller is more interested in breathing life into the character of their mother, whom the girls call 'Marmee.'

Abigail Alcott was a strong-willed, fiery-tempered, unconventional woman who was one of the first paid social workers in Massachusetts.

on the other hand, is a calm, pious, respectable paragon of domesticity, exactly the kind of mother Alcott's readers would expect.

In 1868 when the first volume of "Little Women" was published, the middle-class reading public was influenced by works like Coventry Patmore's widely-read narrative poem, "The Angel in the House," which delineates what came to be regarded as the ideal wife and marriage.

Alcott idolized her fiery mother, but because of her readers' expectations, she presented a watered-down version of her in the character of Marmee.

Miller lets Margaret 'Marmee' March tell her own story through journal entries starting on Christmas Eve,



Phyllis Bernt

1861, when her husband has already spent four months as a chaplain with the Union Army, and ending on Christmas Day, 1868, when she is surrounded by her children and their families.

Structuring the novel as a journal is highly effective because of Marmee's personality. She is an introspective character, constantly examining her motivations, attitudes and feelings.

The picture that emerges from these journal entries is of a woman who tries mightily to meet society's expectations, but who is, underneath it all, very angry. She is furious

about the needless deaths on the battlefield. She is angry that, despite her excellent education, she is not allowed to teach and earn some badly needed money for her cash-strapped family.

Above all, Marmee is angry at herself because she so often loses her temper, something a respectable lady is never supposed to do.

As Marmee worries about her husband and children, reminisces about her past, examines her interactions with unpleasant relatives and thinks of ways she can be helpful to others, the reader is introduced to her daughters and her hopes for them.

Miller is successful in creating a Marmee who is a more multi-dimensional character than the idealized figure who hovers in the background of Alcott's novel.

In 2006, Geraldine Brooks won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for her novel "March," which purports to recount the experiences of Marmee's husband, Captain March, as an army chaplain during the first years of the Civil War.

After more than a century, it is noteworthy that Alcott's unassuming tale of four girls living in genteel poverty during a significant period in American history still inspires the creative imagination of readers and current writers.

A quick reminder that historian Annalisse Heinz will discuss her award-winning book, "Mahjong: A Chinese Game and the Making of Modern American Culture" at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 25.

"Marmee" and "Mahjong" are available to be checked out, as are the twenty new books that were added in February.

"Burner" by Mark Greaney, "Code Name Sapphire" by Pam Jenoff, "The House of Eve" by Sadeqa Johnson, "The Chinese Groove" by Kathryn Ma, "Someone Else's Shoes" by Jojo Moyes, "Victory City" by Salman Rushdie and "Stealing" by Margaret Verble.

The eight mystery novels that were added include "Hell Bent" by Leigh Bardugo, "Storm Watch" by C.J. Box, "A Killing of Innocents" by Deborah Crombie, "Scorched Grace: A Sister Holiday Mystery" by Margot Douaihy, "Exiles" by Jane Harper, "Stolen" by Ann-Helen Laestadius & Rachel Willson-Broyles, "I Have Some Questions for You" by Rebecca Makkai and "The Cliff's Edge" by Charles Todd.

And finally, five non-fiction titles were added. They include "Life: A Journey through Science and Politics" by Paul R. Ehrlich, "Feral: Losing Myself and Finding My Way in America's National Parks" by Emily Pennington, "People vs. Donald Trump: An Inside Account" by Mark Pomerantz, "Shielded: How the Police Became Untouchable" by Joanna Schwartz and "The Climate Book" edited by Greta Thunberg.

Plastic

Continued from Page 2

Nations are working on a legally binding global plastics treaty by 2024, which would regulate all aspects of the lifecycle of plastics, including the types of chemicals used in plastics, and whether they can be easily recycled.

New Ocean Treaty Signed by Almost 200 Countries at U.N. Headquarters in New York

In what has been called "the biggest conservation agreement in the history of the world", in early March, almost 200 countries signed a legally binding agreement at the United Nations to protect the world's oceans.

The "High Seas Treaty" aims to protect 30% of the world's oceans by 2030. The agreement protects biodiversity in international ocean waters, which cover around 40% of the earth's surface.

Oregon Senate Bill proposes transfer of state forest lands to counties

Bob Atiyeh
For the Gazette

A bill sponsored by State Senator David Smith (R-Port Orford), State Senator Fred Girod (R-Stayton) and State Senator Lynn Findley (R-Vale) and currently in the Oregon Senate Committee on Natural Resources, proposes the transfer of up to 500,000 acres of State forest land from the Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests to their respective Counties.

Senate Bill 795 was introduced at the same time that the Oregon Department of Forestry is working on a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) that will provide guidelines for managing Oregon's State Forests over the next 70 years.

resources and timber harvest. Former Clatsop County State Senator and 2022 Independent Gubernatorial candidate Betsy Johnson harshly criticized the Habitat Conservation Plan at a recent Oregon Board of Forestry meeting in Corvallis.

financial resources to properly manage hundreds of thousands of acres of forest lands. These lands would likely end up being sold to private interests and subject to increased clear-cutting and habitat degradation, while potentially compromising water quality in streams that provide drinking water to more than 500,000 Oregonians.

forests absorb far less carbon than older forests; with this study noting that Oregon's total carbon emissions could be substantially reduced if trees were harvested on a longer rotation schedule, instead of the 40-year rotation common on the millions of acres of corporate-owned commercial timber land.

City

Continued from Page 1

challenge this presented to city efforts at equitable code enforcement.

They said they would favor removing all offending landscaping from the right of way but allowed that this would be an impractical demand of property owners.

Councilor Gary Hayes asked a series of questions about what would be required in lieu of the offending trees should the waiver application be denied.

Hayes was adamantly opposed to forcing the homeowner to replace the trees with gravel or grass, citing strong concerns over the parking implications for the street.

entered an extended sidebar about the parking situation on 5th street, with other councilors concurring with Hayes that they did not want to see parking expanded on the street.

La Bonte and St. Denis said that the council could address the parking question separately from the waiver application but councilors continued with a lengthy discussion of the city's right of way policy as it related to parking.

Eventually, the Brodericks were asked to come forward to address the council.

Mr. Broderick said that he had applied for the waiver in hopes of keeping his trees in

the right of way, as had his neighbors, but that he understood city staff's concerns about pipe intrusions. He said that he would be willing to plant approved, shallow-root alternatives and his main concern had been preventing people from parking on his lawn.

The Brodericks agreed to withdraw their waiver application and the council unanimously voted to refund the waiver application fee that they had paid with their submission.

Hayes also made a motion for a council resolution to make 5th Street a no-parking zone on both sides, which the council passed unanimously.

Finally, the council discussed allowances that the city has made for outdoor dining since the beginning of the Coronavirus pandemic in 2020.

That order is set to expire in April and St. Denis asked the council to discuss whether to extend it or allow

it to expire. Councilors expressed mixed feelings about extending the order, wondering if the pandemic still warranted an emergency response, while still supporting the expanded outdoor dining options.

They agreed that they would like to see the expanded outdoor dining addressed in the ongoing code audit. But they said that they would like to see

further data on the pandemic and its ongoing effects before extending the emergency order again.

St. Denis said that he would gather data and bring it to the council for a decision at a meeting later this month or their regular meeting in April.

Please send any comments to headlightreporter@courtmymedia.net.

Advertisement for Bonnie, a Great Dane mix dog. Includes photo of the dog, name 'Bonnie', description of her personality, and contact information for Clatsop County Animal Shelter.

Advertisement for Bruce's Candy Kitchen. Features images of chocolate bunnies, promotional text about online shopping, address '256 N. Hemlock St', phone number '503-436-2641', and website 'www.brucescandy.com'.

# North Coast hit by tsunami in 1964 remembered today

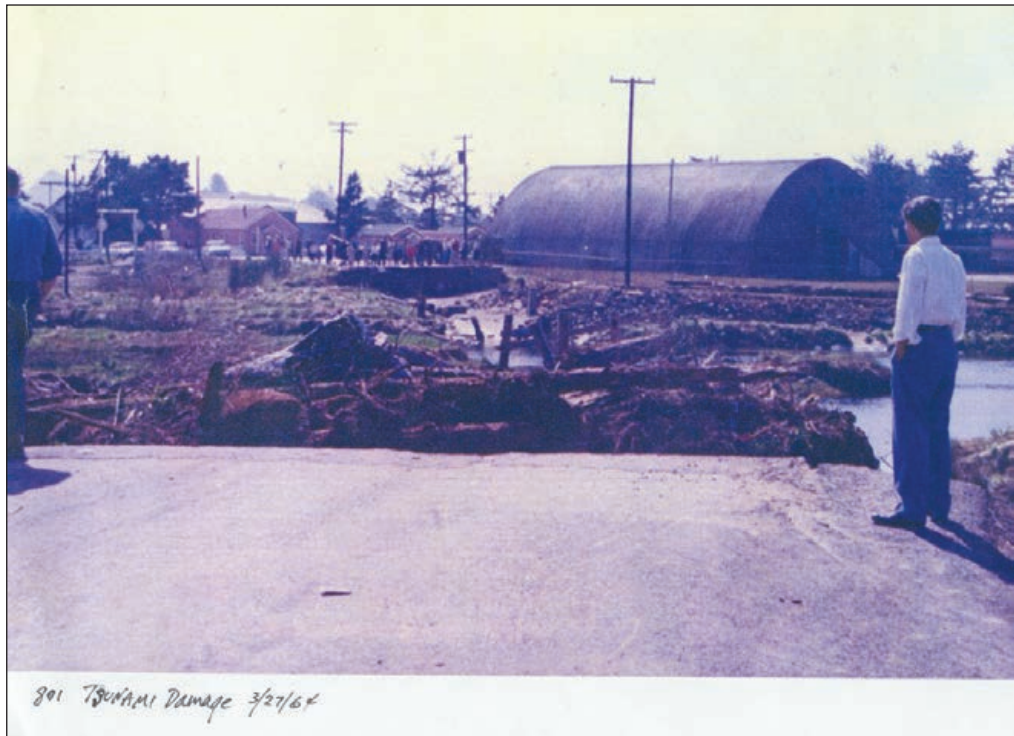
Friday, March 27th, 1964 was a warm, sunny day on the North Oregon Coast. Anyone listening to the radio or watching TV around 7 p.m. that night had the normal programming interrupted by breaking news of a very large and destructive earthquake along the south coast of Alaska. Initial reports were vague, as normal communication channels with Alaska had been disrupted. "Civil

Defense Authorities" warned of a possible "tidal wave" that could impact areas along the west coast.

Shortly after 11 p.m. on that moonlit night in Seaside and Cannon Beach, the ocean pulled away from shore in a "negative phase." The Necanicum River estuary in Seaside was virtually empty of water, before ocean water surged up the river channels of the Necanicum, Neawanna

and Neacoxie, washing over low-lying areas along the river channels, carrying logs, sand, and ocean debris.

Ocean water and sand covered sections of Highway 101, and bridges over the Necanicum River in Seaside were damaged. A huge wave surged up Elk (Ecola) Creek in Cannon Beach, destroying the bridge over the creek, throwing debris against the exterior walls of the grade



Checking out the damage after the 1964 tsunami. (Bottom photo) A bridge went out during the 1964 tsunami in Cannon Beach. Photos courtesy of the Cannon Beach History Center.



school and flooding the interior. Multiple structures in Seaside and Cannon Beach were damaged or destroyed, along with several vehicles. The tsunami wave broke over the "Prom" in Seaside, damaging nearby homes. Ocean water and debris covered Hemlock Street in downtown Cannon Beach.

Cannon Beach resident

Sam Steidel tells the story of his father Bill Steidel during the tsunami: "They were at Frank Hamond's house across from the church on Washington. A call came for one of them saying the water broke over the tree on the water front. The card players scrambled to go home. Dad was the only one from across the creek. He raced through inch-deep water downtown, and when he came up to the bridge, a house floated by going upstream. He stopped just in time. He made it home by going back to Sunset Avenue, then up the highway." Sam added that "I personally slept through it. Afterwards we collected at the bridge abutments and waved at friends across the creek. You could see the bridge bits up-creek by where the house settled. Story was that the teapot and cups were still on the kitchen table."

The massive magnitude 9.2 subduction zone earthquake that struck the south coast of Alaska near Prince William Sound, creating the tsunami that hit the Pacific coast, remains the largest earthquake ever recorded in North America. The earthquake struck Alaska at 5:36 p.m. local time (6:36 p.m. Pacific Time) with the shaking lasting for over 4-1/2 minutes. The earthquake itself killed 10 people, with the ensuing tsunamis killing 122 in Alaska. One tsunami wave in Shoup Bay, near Valdez, was over 200 feet high. Some areas of coastal Alaska dropped 8 feet, while others rose almost 40 feet.

The tsunami wave spread out into the Pacific Ocean from Alaska, reaching the coast of British Columbia,

See **TSUNAMI**, Page 6



## NOW HIRING: BEACH LIFEGUARDS

Do you have what it takes to protect one of the most iconic beaches on the Oregon Coast?

Cannon Beach Rural Fire Protection District is seeking individuals who are confident swimmers or surfers, who are willing to learn and apply new skills, and who are committed to helping guard the lives of our beach patrons.

Those interested must successfully complete the following:

- Pass a 550 yard pool swim test, as well as an open ocean swim test.
- Pass an interview.
- Pass a background check and drug screening.
- Must possess a valid driver's license and be at least 17 years of age at the time of the pool swim test.



### Flexible Hours

In-district housing available for those who qualify

### Free Training Opportunities

Pay Range: \$17.00 – 21.00 / hr.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information or to submit interest.

Division Chief Jason Smith

188 Sunset Blvd.  
Cannon Beach, OR 97110  
(503) 436-2949

jsmith@cbfire.com

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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HH23-62  
**NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Case #23PB00346 Notice:** The Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of CLATSOP has appointed the undersigned as Personal Representative of the Estate of SALLY ANN HANNU, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers to the undersigned personal representative in care of the undersigned attorney at: 294 Warner Milne Rd. Ste. A, Or-

egon City, OR 97045 within four months from the date of first publication of this notice as stated below, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by this proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the Attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published March 3, 2023. Attorney/Personal Representative: Grant Yoakum, OSB #921600, 294 Warner Milne Rd. #A, Oregon City, OR 97045 (503) 697-1009



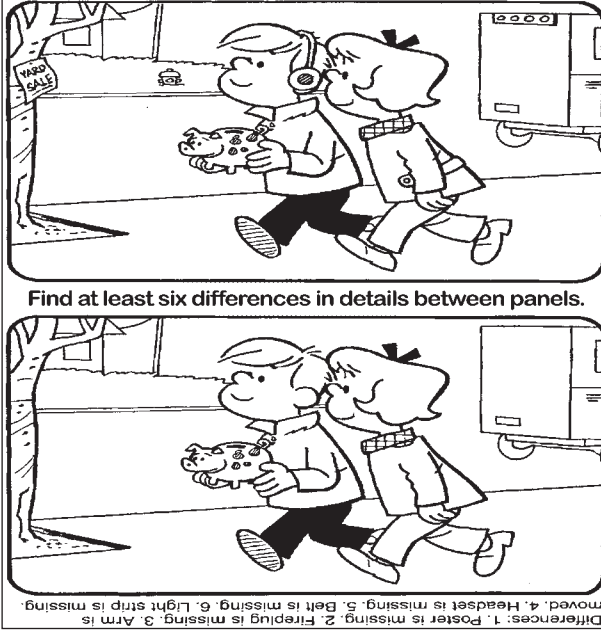
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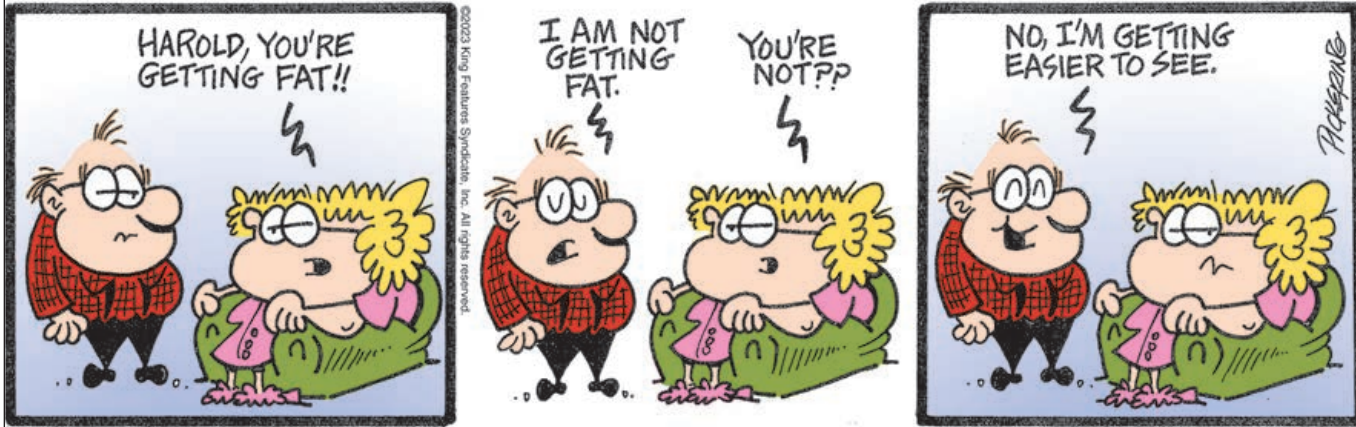
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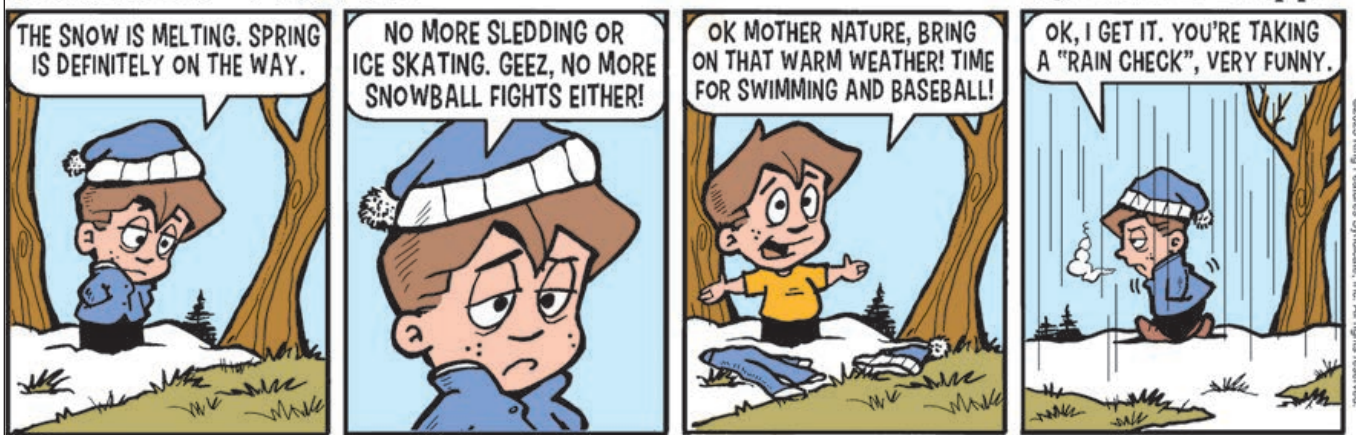
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**Weekly SUDOKU**

**Answer**

5	4	6	1	8	7	9	3	2
9	3	1	4	2	6	5	8	7
2	7	8	5	9	3	4	6	1
8	1	2	9	6	4	7	5	3
7	9	5	2	3	1	6	4	8
4	6	3	8	7	5	2	1	9
6	5	9	3	1	2	8	7	4
3	2	4	7	5	8	1	9	6
1	8	7	6	4	9	3	2	5

**Super Crossword**

**Answers**

MOM	COBRA	TSAR	STOOLS
IDO	ARIAL	HATH	CANNOT
DONAMECHE	RUBY	ALICIA	
ORATE	MELINAMERCOURI		
REMORAS	ELATES	NEER	
IDINAMENZEL	STIES		
BREE	TIM	END	VIA
PROHIBITION	AMENDMENT		
IRANI	LAV	CHA	YENTL
COROLLA	ADORNER	IDEA	
EVE	TIJUANAMEXICO	ENS	
MIFF	MALCOLM	NANETTE	
ANEED	NAV	ODE	ESTOS
SCANDINAVIAN	AMERICAN		
SET	ARI	ECU	MMLI
WYATT	DINAMERRILL		
ANDI	REMAIN	ONVIDEO	
BARCELON	METRO	PATHS	
ROOKIE	SCAN	IGOTANAME	
AMPERE	ERIC	POLAR	GAT
MISTER	DONE	ADARK	SNO

Headlight Herald

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The Cannon Beach Gazette welcomes letters that express readers' opinions on current topics. Letters may be submitted by email only, no longer than 300 words, and must be signed and include the writer's full name, address (including city) and telephone number for verification of the writer's identity. We will print the writer's name and town of residence only. Letters without the requisite identifying information will not be published. Letters are published in the order received and may be edited for length, grammar, spelling, punctuation or clarity. We do not publish group emails, open letters, form letters, third-party letters, letters attacking private individuals or businesses, or letters containing advertising.

Deadline for letters is noon Thursdays. The date of publication will depend on space.

Email letters to [jwarren@countrymedia.net](mailto:jwarren@countrymedia.net)

**OBITUARIES**  
The Cannon Beach Gazette has several options for submitting obituaries.

- Basic Obituary: Includes the person's name, age, town of residency, and information about any funeral services. No cost.
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Email obituaries to [classifieds@orcoastnews.com](mailto:classifieds@orcoastnews.com)

