



Cannon Beach eyes food/beverage tax

Kathleen Stinson
For The Gazette

The Cannon Beach City Council met in work session last week to discuss whether to explore the feasibility and desirability of asking voters to approve a food and beverage tax.

City Manager Bruce St. Denis stated in his staff report:

“We do not know yet if it is possible, but the potential to reduce the financial burden of a City Hall/Police Station and addressing water supply resiliency is significant.

“Staff is renewing our efforts, including initiating efforts to reach out to communities that have said they plan on proceeding with a referral (vote).”

St. Denis said the result of the meeting was that “council directed staff to investigate the possibilities, but decided not to try to get (it) on a May 2020 ballot for the referral question.”

The City of Ashland has such a tax. The tax-rates.org website states: “Oregon is one of five states with no statewide sales tax, but Oregon law

still allows municipalities or cities to enact their own local sales taxes at their discretion. Ashland, for example, has a 5% local sales tax on the sale of prepared food.”

The Gazette contacted the City of Ashland last week and obtained a copy of its FY 2018/2019 financial report, which states that the total food and beverage tax revenues for

the year was \$3,115,000.

The report shows how much of that revenue went into funds for wastewater, street, capital improvement and central services.

The tax has been in effect since 2010, the report shows.

The Gazette subsequently contacted several restaurants in Cannon Beach for their comments on the issue, with

only Paul Nofield, co-owner of the Driftwood Restaurant and Lounge, responding.

Nofield said he would favor such a tax on the condition that it be specified exactly where the revenues would be spent and when the tax would sunset.

He also said he favors having an oversight committee to track how and where the money is spent.

◆ SHE SAID ‘YES’ ...



(Top) Portland real estate broker Chris Merz proposes to Samantha Vanwilgen, a medical student and his girlfriend of two years in Cannon Beach. Photo courtesy Julie Adams Photography. (Bottom) Samantha displays her ring, which is a Mertz family heirloom. Photo by Joe Warren.



CANNON BEACH PROPOSAL TOOK A LOT OF WORK

Joe Warren
For The Gazette

Chris Merz put a lot of thought and time into his proposal to Samantha Vanwilgen, his girlfriend of two years, before popping the question Oct. 26 in Cannon Beach.

His plan took his fiancée totally by surprise.

Metz is something of a romantic - like his father, Kevin Metz, who proposed to his wife and Chris' mother in 1984 by arranging for the message “Please Suzi will you marry me, Love Kevin” on the marquee of the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall in Portland.

Chris said his father was the first person in Portland to ever use that iconic marquee to propose marriage. And, yes, Suzi said, “Totally yes, yes, yes” while standing along Southwest Broadway hugging Kevin. “He’s such a romantic guy.”

That romantic gene must have been

passed along to the couple’s son. Chris said he wanted to do something huge. And he did.

He came up with a plan to get Samantha to the beach for the weekend so he could surprise her with his proposal. “I didn’t want her to know anything was up,” he said. “I wanted this to take her totally by surprise, just like when my father proposed to my mother back in ‘84.”

Chris told her his father had won a bid on a weekend package while at a fundraiser in Portland for the WYMM Foundation. Chris told Samantha his mother and father could not use the package, so they were giving it to them.

The weekend would include two nights’ stay, breakfast, lunch, dinner, hikes, spa time, a scavenger hunt, a trip to the Cannon Beach Distillery, fireworks at dusk and time with friends at Ecola State Park, plus the use of a cabin with views of the ocean on three sides.

Chris had manufactured the name

of the charity foundation to keep his story rolling ... WYMM, which stands for “Will You Marry Me.” He even designed a website for the WYMM Foundation so he could show Samantha it was a legitimate entity.

The car he arranged to pick them up in Cannon Beach on Saturday morning had WYMM Foundation signs on the doors. There was even a loose itinerary for the day with the WYMM Foundation logo on the letterhead.

For Samantha, it was to be a weekend escape from her studies to be a doctor. “She had no idea,” Chris said. “It was perfect, she was definitely surprised.”

When the driver took the couple to the cabin, Chris had decorated it to the hilt. He had placed more than 150 candles around the building.

The couple took a short walk to the spot Chris had picked for his proposal.

Helping your neighbors in an emergency

Kathleen Stinson
For The Gazette

What makes a person want to help someone else? A group of volunteers in Cannon Beach believe they know the answer to that question.

They are the Cannon Beach Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

Mary Beth Cottle is the CERT coordinator in Cannon Beach. “This community has a history of being resilient and able to come together and making sure everyone is taken care of,” said Cottle.

In 2007, a windstorm knocked out the community’s electricity for more than a week, she said. “During that time, the community came together to support each other – restaurants gave food away... everyone was warm and was fed,” she said.

“My goal is to make sure we maintain that level of community spirit and increase our outreach.”

CERT volunteers are trained in a variety of skills, including first aid, and how to assist in search and rescue and the extrication of people who are trapped, for example.

“A lot of people want to donate time to the community and (CERT) is a good way to do that,” said Cannon Beach Chief of Police Jason Schermerhorn.

Cannon Beach CERT has about 60 members, Schermerhorn said. The group has conducted training in Seaside and Gearhart, too.

“The CERT members are critical to the confidence of the community to handle non-emergency and emergency situations,” said Rick Hudson, the city’s emergency services manager.

“We are building a bolstered CERT program for Cannon Beach. This program had been established in the past, but had stalled out.

“We will be having monthly training meetings and exercises to take the training to an operational level to improve the resiliency of Cannon Beach.”

Cottle said she attends meetings of the Clatsop County Citizens Corps Council, which is comprised of several different emergency preparedness groups. “One thing I am pretty passionate about is countywide, we need to be a tight team,” she said.

“If something happens, we need to mobilize to help each other.”

She said the goal is to “make sure the county is as prepared as possible” in the event of a debilitating storm, a landslide or any disaster, whether natural or manmade.

The county has an emergency alert system, she said. “The link for the Clatsop Alerts is <https://bit.ly/32aSffk>, and for questions and information email clasopemd@co.clatsop.or.us or call 503-325-8645.”

For more information or to volunteer for CERT, call Cottle at 503-880-4425.

Pets can rely on help, too

Kathleen Stinson
For The Gazette

In the event of a community-wide emergency, Cannon Beach has a group of volunteers who are trained to help rescue pets.

Dr. Bob Kroll, a retired veterinarian, started the Cannon Beach Disaster Animal Response Team, which now has about 30 members.

“During Hurricane Katrina, many people refused to evacuate their homes because they wouldn’t leave their pets behind,” Dr. Kroll said. He said that “not only puts animals and people at risk, but also first-responders at risk,” because they keep returning to help the people who refuse to leave.

Kroll said that in 2006, after Hurricane Katrina, the federal government passed the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act (PETS).

“The PETS Act authorizes the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide rescue, care, shelter and essential needs for individuals with household pets and service animals, and to the household pets and animals themselves following a major disaster or emergency,” as stated on the American Veterinarian Medical Associa-

Cannon Beach event benefits school’s culinary program

Hilary Dorsey
For The Gazette

The culinary program at Seaside High School recently received a check for \$2,524.54 from the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce’s “North Coast Culinary Fest: A Celebration of James Beard in Cannon Beach.”

The funds were raised from the inaugural event last May.

“The money will be used to support the program as a whole, as well as ... to take the culinary team to state ProStart competition and national competitions as needed,” said Chelsea Archibald, who teaches culinary arts at Seaside High School.

Archibald said many of the school’s students volunteered last spring during the James Beard Culinary Fest as greeters and servers, helping prepare food and attending

the James Beard film at The Times theatre.

“This was our first event together,” Archibald said.

Jim Paino and Buddie Anderson from the Cannon Beach Chamber, along with North Coast Culinary Fest committee chairman Bob Neroni of EVOO and event coordinator Tracy Abel, sat down with Archibald and high school principal Jeff Roberts to recap last year’s event and talk about the upcoming 2020 event May 15-17.

At this point, Seaside High’s culinary program is planning to assist with next May’s event. “We are planning on having six to eight students in the kitchen preparing food for the (event’s) Sunday brunch,” Archibald said.

“The students can also help serve at the brunch if they are interested in seeing both back-of-house and front-of-house parts of the event.



The culinary program at Seaside High School receives a \$2,524.54 check from the North Coast Culinary Fest. Photo by Buddie Anderson.

“We are grateful for the donation from the Culinary Fest and looking forward to

another enriching event for both students and participants.”

Tickets for May’s event will go on sale soon at www.cannonbeach.org.

Super Crossword

ACROSS

1 Will, in the Bible
6 Sang like a bird
13 Modify
19 Pages, e.g.
20 Stone Age
21 Simple
22 Well... hop to it!
25 Pa's ma
26 Mega-years
27 Big record label, once
30 "Hamlet" monologue
38 Singer
39 Skeletal bit
40 Told fibs
41 Fancy resort
42 "Very sorry to hear that"
49 Skidded
51 Penn of film
52 Compass
53 Divested (of)
55 Intl. cultural gp.
59 Like lambs

DOWN

1 Like cut wood
2 Pair of drum-kit
3 "A Bell for
4 Unleash on
5 Airport org.
6 Parody-filled newspaper

ON THE EVE

7 Gretzky of hockey
8 Brian of rock
9 School URL
10 "... a pudgy tat!"
11 Orals, e.g.
12 Clear, as a windshield
13 Boxing great
14 Bear's home
15 Bender
16 Not suited
17 Town that's home to the University of Connecticut
18 Shredded
23 Blitzen, e.g.
24 6'6", say
29 Brine
31 Solo in films
32 Mine find
33 Game aim
34 It aired "ER"
35 Hi- (stereos)
36 Caviar fish
37 Suburb of Minneapolis
42 "Umami" taste source
43 "... haw!"
44 Simply must keep going
45 At variance
46 Dr. Kildare player
47 "I heard him exclaim, — he drove out of sight..."
48 "Fine fellow"
50 Paperboy, for one
54 Gorilla guru
55 Fossey
56 Actress
57 Pick out from others
58 Some poems
60 Plural of "el"
62 Be in debt
63 Some votes
64 Zapping ER treatment
65 Silver of statistics
67 Neighbor of Belg.
71 Party
72 Netman
73 Arthur
74 "Uh-huh"
75 Caviar base
76 Inseparable
77 DDE's WWII sphere
79 Chocoholic, e.g.
82 Chinese port
84 Oahu pallo
85 Road, in Italy
86 Sear's "gift"
87 "Fresh Air" network
89 Dusk, to a bard
90 Old Brit.
94 More heartfelt
97 PC file that's shareable
99 Fathers
100 First-aid pro
101 Writer Rand
102 Nanki- — ("The Mikado" son)
103 Blook up
104 Made level
105 "Good as gold," e.g.
107 Motley — author Erich
112 "He's a man — words"
113 Dinero
114 "With this ring — wed"
115 Keno's kin
116 Knight's mail
117 Some pups
122 Norway port
124 Make haste
125 Blast stuff
126 Flying stinger
127 Apartment divs.
128 Archaic verb ending
129 Dernier —
130 Used a pew

Crossword answers on page 5.

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Cannon Beach Library offers variety of literary experiences

Joseph Bernt
Library Volunteer

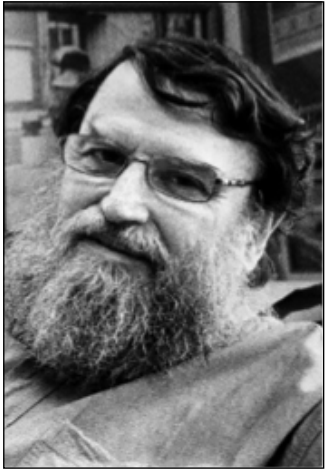
The Northwest Authors Series seeks submissions for the Second Annual Writers' Read Celebration planned for Feb. 28 at the library.

The deadline for submission of essays, stories, poems and other literary writings on the theme "Views From the North Coast" is Jan. 17.

This is an opportunity to write about your relationship to the north coast, to describe your vision of the north coast, to explain what draws you here and how you feel connected to these surroundings.

Authors may submit as many as three items (poems, essays, short stories, profiles, descriptions and so forth). Each entry, however, is limited to no more than 600 words.

They should be emailed to info@cannonbeachli-



brary.org, or postal delivered to the Cannon Beach Library, P.O. Box 486, Cannon Beach, OR 97110. Accompany the entries with a separate cover letter containing the writer's name, email address and telephone number.

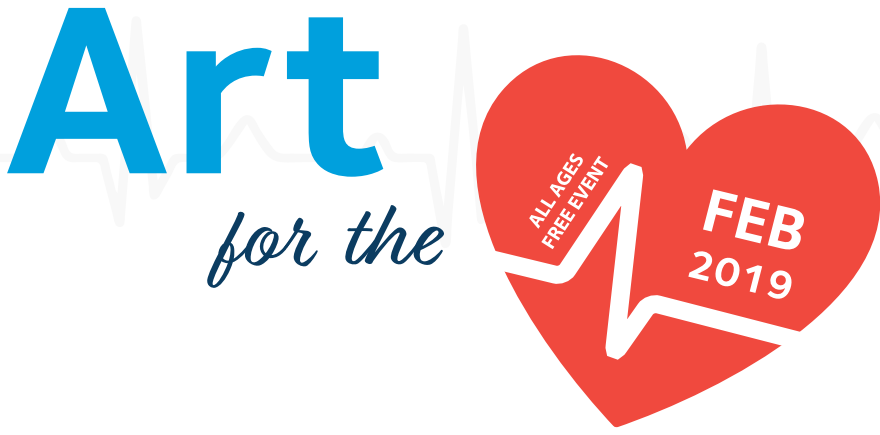
A panel of judges will read all entries and ask as many as 10 authors to read submissions at the Writers Read Celebration.

Here's another early announcement: Fisher-poets - Jon Broderick, Dave Densmore, Geno Leech, Rob Seitz and Jay Speakman - will read their original poetry and play their tunes at a special event sponsored by the Northwest Authors Series on Jan. 19 at 2 p.m.

This event shouldn't be missed. Last winter, the fisherpoets proved they could rock a packed library. Be there or be square, to paraphrase the Beat Generation.

Cannon Beach Reads begins its 14th year of discussing important fiction and nonfiction by Pacific Northwest, American and international authors. Members of Cannon Beach Reads will discuss "Oregon's Greatest Natural Disasters" by Eugene author William L. Sullivan on Jan.

See **LIBRARY**, Page 4




Call to artists

Adventist Health Tillamook announces a call to artists for the Art for the Heart exhibition February 1 – 28, 2020.


Join us in raising awareness about heart health. All mediums may be entered; prizes will be awarded.

Submit heart theme art by January 24, 2020.

For more information email AHTM.info@ah.org.


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Our Beginning

The Wymm Foundation, created by digital pioneer John Wymm, is a diverse and dynamic institution by design. We create programs and invest

Chris Merz created a fake website for the WYMM Foundation, which is an acronym for will you marry me, to keep his story alive. Gazette graphic.

Proposal

Continued from Page 1

The sun was setting over the ocean to the west and with his grandmother's wedding ring secure in his pocket, it was time.

Chris got down on one knee and popped the question. At his signal, fireworks went off in the distance. A hired photographer captured the romantic scene.

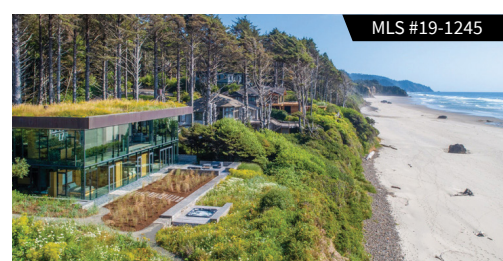
Samantha said yes. "I'm surprised at all he did to pull this off," she said. "And it makes me wonder about him. Can this be the end of the surprises?"

Chris is a real estate broker in Portland and Samantha is attending medical school. Their marriage is set for Aug. 1, 2020 in Portland.

Cascade


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MLS #19-1245

80644 HWY 101 | CANNON BEACH
2 BD | 3 BA | 3,348 SF | \$6,250,000
Sally Conrad, Broker | 503.440.2111



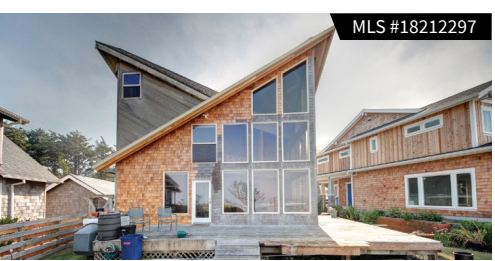
MLS #19-926

640 N OAK ST | CANNON BEACH
4 BD | 5 BA | 4,832 SF | 1.4 AC | \$4,850,000
Cole Horsley, Broker | 503.739.0283




MLS #19-221

32307 RUBY LN | CANNON BEACH
2 BD | 2 BA | 3,040 SF | \$3,995,000
Cole Horsley, Broker | 503.739.0283




MLS #18212297

1658 FOREST LAWN RD | CANNON BEACH
3 BD | 3 BA | 2,152 SF | \$1,800,000
Cole Horsley, Broker | 503.739.0283




MLS #19-1391

1748 VIEW POINT TERRACE | CANNON BEACH
4 BD | 3 BA | 2,756 SF | \$1,145,000
Sally Conrad, Broker | 503.440.2111




MLS #19079268

726 H ST | GEARHART
4 BD | 3 BA | 2,371 SF | \$799,900
Pat Ordway, Principal Broker | 503.440.0726
Michael Hague, Broker | 503.338.9097



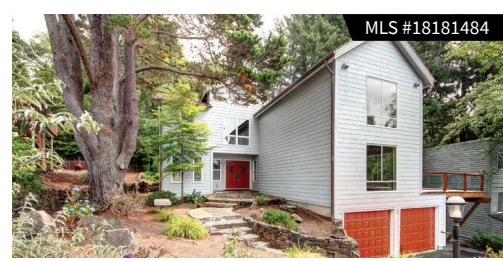
MLS #19057096

107 W WASHINGTON ST | CANNON BEACH
2 BD | 1 BA | 1,072 SF | \$688,000
Robin Risley, Principal Broker | 503.738.2888




MLS #19139900

17655 LOMMEN RD | NEHALEM
3 BD | 2 BA | 2,352 SF | \$625,000
Dennis Coxen, Broker | 503.388.2526
Camilla Arlit, Broker | 310.400.9164




MLS #18181484

421 CHILKOOT TRL | CANNON BEACH
5 BD | 3 BA | 4,532 SF | .16 AC | \$599,950
Sally Conrad, Broker | 503.440.2111



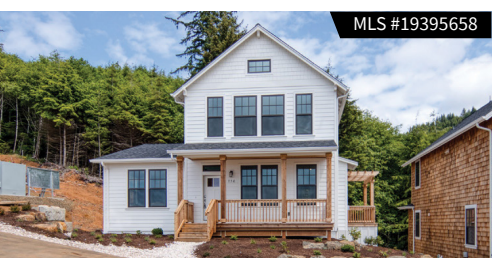
MLS #19010754

250 SW 60TH LOOP | SOUTH BEACH
3 BD | 2.1 BA | 2,212 SF | \$569,000
Jack Winter, Broker | 503.799.1907




MLS #19-1204

316 3RD ST | MANZANITA
5 BD | 3 BA | 3,111 SF | \$569,000
Leisha Mizze-Riggert, Principal Broker | 503.801.4741




MLS #19395658

730 NE LILLIAN LN | DEPOE BAY
3 BD | 2.1 BA | 2,520 SF | \$519,000
Lisa Morrigan, Broker | 541.921.1090




MLS #19-1471

402 1ST ST | MANZANITA
3 BD | 2.5 BA | 1,404 SF | \$479,000
Erin Laskey, Broker | 503.809.9434



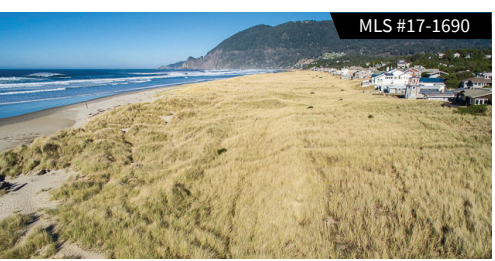
MLS #19-658

34475 PINYON DR | MANZANITA
4 BD | 3 BA | 1,963 SF | \$469,000
Reet Vaga, Principal Broker | 503.440.3112



MLS #19-1277

259 FIRST ST | MANZANITA
2 BD | 2 BA | 1,063 SF | \$399,000
Meadow Davis, Principal Broker | 503.812.9543



MLS #17-1690

LUNGOMARE AVE | MANZANITA
0.10 AC | Land | \$565,000
Meadow Davis, Principal Broker | 503.812.9543

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Coast HappeningsCalendar

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Friday, Dec. 27

Holiday Foods Around the World- 4-10:30 p.m. at participating restaurants. Visit participating Cannon Beach restaurants as they feature unique food and beverage specials highlighting traditions from many different countries and cultures.

Saturday, Dec. 28

Holiday Foods Around the World- 4-10:30 p.m. at participating restaurants. Visit participating Cannon Beach restaurants as they feature unique food and beverage specials highlighting traditions from many different countries and cultures.

Sunday, Jan. 12

A Soft Place to Land Monthly Women's Intention Circle- 3 p.m. - 5 a.m. at 115 W Nelchena St, Cannon Beach OR 97110. Topic: Collage Your Intention for the New Year. \$10 love offering or a goodie to share is requested.

Sunday, Jan. 12

Monthly Chamber Breakfast Meeting- 7:45 a.m. to 9 a.m. around town. Each month plan on hearing an enlightening and concise update on Chamber activities and enjoy a discussion by a local business owner or special dignitary.

Thursday, Jan. 16

A Deadly Wind: The 1962 Columbus Day Storm- 4-5 p.m. at Cannon Beach History Center, free lecture. The speaker will be John Dodge on his latest book.

Friday, Jan. 17 Writers Read Celebration 2020- 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. at

Cannon Beach Library, call for submissions. Deadline is Jan. 17. For more information visit the library or contact info@cannonbeachlibrary.org.

Wednesday, Jan. 22

Business After Hours- 5-7 p.m. at The Waves. For members or perspective members, a chance to win door prizes.

Library

Continued from Page 3

15 from 7-8:30 p.m. The group welcomes anyone interested in participating to join this monthly conversation. Celebrated for his popular books about hiking trails in scenic regions of Oregon, Sullivan writes a geological history of Oregon's earth-

quakes, tsunamis, Ice Age and historic floods, massive forest fires, volcanoes and historic storms. "Oregon's Greatest Natural Disasters" describes the effects of an expected Cascadia subduction earthquake and tsunami striking the Pacific Northwest, a subduction event such as the Pacific Northwest experienced in 1700. Sullivan shows his gift for fiction in this book with a speculative account of life on the Oregon coast a week

after such a disaster. This juxtaposition of fictional characters against a scientific description of yet another great Oregon disaster drives the point home. Expect massive destruction from a 9.2 megquake 60 miles off the Oregon coast, as soon as next week or in another 600 years. Get ready for the big one, though, if you live anywhere west of the Cascades. In a book market awash with largely partisan titles focused on The Donald, I

recommend Kurt Andersen's "Fantasyland: How America Went Haywire, A 500-Year History," still available at the library. Unlike the current tsunami of partisan books devoted to Trump, "Fantasyland" describes a long American history of dreamers, explorers, charlatans, speculators, hucksters, entertainers, gold diggers, spiritualists, utopians, religious dissidents, financial schemers, medical fakers and fantasists ... all practitioners of what Andersen defines as magical thinking, a confusing and often entertaining mixture of reality and fiction. This 500 years of American magical thought began with Columbus claiming discovery of India. Among many examples, this history includes the Salem witch trials, P.T. Barnum's fake curiosities, Buffalo Bill's Wild West shows, mythic re-creation of a genteel antebellum American South, Walt Disney's "Frontier-

land," hippie communes of the 1970s, more recently President Reagan's confusion about fighting or just appearing in films during WWII, and most recently Trump's birtherism assertions and 15,413 documented misstatements and lies during his first 1,055 days in office. Andersen argues that Martin Luther first unleashed magical thinking with his emphasis on ev-eryman, with bible in hand, acting as his own priest capable of forming his own biblical interpretations, and thereby undermining the authority of the Catholic Church as well as civil authorities. In 1608, with four words - "No bishop, no king" - King James I succinctly rejected Puritan efforts to replace the authority of bishops in the Church of England with a "priest-hood of all believers." British Puritans split for Holland, and ultimately introduced magical thinking

to North America when they founded the Plymouth Plantation in 1620. Individualism took root and spread like kudzu. Andersen and E. Graydon Carter co-edited New York's satirical "Spy" magazine during the 1980s and 1990s. They chose Donald Trump as the embodiment of an era of crass greed. They relentlessly tortured Trump, regularly referring to him in "Spy" coverage as a "short-fingered vulgar-ian," a label Marco Rubio resurrected during the 2016 campaign with references to Trump's small hands. Although "Fantasyland" offers context for Trump's popularity and electoral success, Andersen first mentions the short-fingered vulgarian on page 241 of this 440-page tome. "Fantasyland" explains American confusion in the 21st Century; but, despite Andersen's past mockery of Trump, this last American president mercifully is not his focus.

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Pets

Continued from Page 1

tion's website. As part of this, the federal government requires municipalities to have a plan in place to help pets and service animals in the event of such an emergency, Kroll said. He added that about a year and a half ago, Cannon Beach's police chief and

emergency manager asked him to organize such a program - CBDART. One focus of the local program is to prompt the community to maintain so-called "go-bags," which include pet food, pet first-aid supplies and other necessities to provide for the animals. Volunteers meet periodically for organizational and training sessions, he said. That training includes "safe-animal handling," as well as pet first aid and CPR.

One such training session covered the subject of zoonotic diseases, which are those that can spread from animals to humans. The group also is collecting sheltering and pet-care supplies, such as bowls, leashes and collapsible kennels, to store in a cache in the event of an emergency, he said. For more information or to ask about volunteering, email Kroll at cbdart@ci.cannon-beach.or.us.

MUNICIPAL MEMO

DECEMBER 2019



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FOR YOUR INFORMATION
MAYOR: Sam Steidel
COUNCILORS: Mike Benefield, Nancy McCarthy, Brandon Ogilvie and Robin Risley
CITY MANAGER: Bruce St. Denis

MEETINGS JANUARY 2020

7	City Council Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.	16	Planning Commission	6:00 p.m.
14	City Council Work Session	5:30 p.m.	23	Design Review Board	6:00 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, November 5, 2019

- Did not adopt an Ordinance before them to amend the Municipal Code by adding Chapter 6.12 Horses. Council directed Parks & Community Services Committee to work with horse rider/owners on revised wording;
- Did not approve the IGA with the City of Manzanita to continue to supply building inspection services. Directed staff to renegotiate;
- Appointed Jeanne Williams as the 11th member of the City Hall/Police Station Vetting Committee;
- Authorized the Mayor to sign a letter of support for the Arch Cape Community Forest, Forest Legacy Project;
- Extended the deadline for applications to the Short Term Rental Task Force until December 20th;
- Discussed the county-wide homeless services position being considered by county and cities;
- Carolyn Propst, Chair of the Public Works Committee presented scenario 5 of the utility rate modeling as requested by Council.

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION, November 12, 2019

- Discussed the placement of basalt based informational signs at NecCus' park and the free standing interpretive sign at Les Shirley Park, documenting the native American connection with the two areas;
- Michael McNickle, Clatsop County Health Director gave a presentation on tobacco effects on county residents and an overview of the new county ordinance establishing tobacco retail licensing. He will return after the New Year to discuss whether Cannon Beach will support the county ordinance with its own ordinance. County and cities should be on the same page, per McNickle;
- Members of the Cannon Beach Rural Fire District presented on the difficulty of funding;
- Community Development Director Jeff Adams presented on the Transportation System Program grant the City recently received;
- Discussed Warren Way/Hemlock intersection;
- Discussed changes to the Parks definition in the Municipal Code; directed Parks & Community Services Committee to rework the language;
- Finance Director Laurie Sawrey presented the FYE 2020 1st quarter finance report.
- City Manager St. Denis reported on the City Hall/Police Station Vetting Committee's request to broaden their scope.

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION, November 19, 2019

- Deliberated on the Foredune Management Plan; continued to the January 14th work session;
- Discussed Oregon Parks Department (ORPD)s claim of outfall regulation violations.

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, December 3, 2019

- Council authorized the installation of basalt based historical signage at NeCus' Park and Les Shirley Park.

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION, December 9, 2019

- City Manager St. Denis gave a presentation to Council on major project funding: City Hall/Police Station, Utilities/Water Supply Resiliency and the old Cannon Beach Elementary School purchase.

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION, December 10, 2019

- Cannon Beach Farmers Market Manager Philomena Lloyd presented the 2019 annual report;
- Discussed wording of the Park Ordinance changes, to be considered at the City Council regular meeting January 7th;
- Authorized the City Manager to work with a donor who has offered to assist with the purchase of a new Haystack Rock Awareness Program truck;
- Agreed not to put a bond referral on the May 19, 2020 election; but rather wait until a decision has been made regarding the placement of a new City Hall/Police Station and then select an election date;
- Agreed to meet with the City Attorney in the third week of February for selected training for Council and standing committee chair persons. Committee members will be encouraged to attend the training as well.
- Agreed to hold the 2020 Council Retreat in January, 2020; the exact date and venue to be determined.

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION, December 11, 2019

- Council took public comment on the major project funding presentation of December 9th.

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD - The Design Review Board's November meeting was cancelled. The DRB met December 19th for a work session re: planting list update and DRB procedures and criteria review.

PLANNING COMMISSION - The Planning Commission met November 26, 2019 and discussed: **SR 19-03**, Public hearing and consideration of a setback reduction extension for Phil Chek and Associates for property owners Janice Donnelly and JillXan Donnelly. This setback reduction extension request is for an approved setback reduction (SR18-05) on September 27, 2018, for 148 N Larch Street. **Approved**

The Planning Commission met December 17th and discussed: **ZO 19-92** Public Hearing and consideration to amend the Cannon Beach Municipal Code introducing a new Special Events Chapter, while repealing Title 10, Chapter 8, Traffic and Parking and amending the Zoning Ordinance Chapter 4 Signage Definitions, Chapter 22 Limited Commercial Zone, prohibiting mobile food vending wagons and Chapter 90 General Requirements and Regulations on Outdoor Merchandising.

Of Interest...

City Hall is closed

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday Dec. 23rd, 24th and 25th in observance of Christmas

Wednesday Jan. 1st in observance of New Year's Day

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Letter to the Editor

What's wrong with grading the dunes?

Dear Editor:

Apart from the ad hominem attacks by my friend Diane and Commissioner Kerr, neither of them explained what, exactly, is wrong with grading the tops of dunes for views.

Consider if the City of Portland passed an ordinance that banned the removal of leaves on people's front yards and front porches because petitioners from around the region thought the drifts looked "natural" and "wild," and "my kids like to play in them."

I think folks who lived on Northeast Klickitat, like Diana Turner, would object vigorously. She would probably have petitions up in Powell's Books in no time.

The accumulation of sand

up to 60 feet or more will not protect the Amos home from a tsunami, which will be deluged from the wave sweeping in from Ecola Creek. Higher dunes will not protect the homes on the Presidential streets, some of which will be reduced to piles of rubble even after a moderate tsunami.

Preventing dunes from being graded will not invite more wildlife, or enhance recreational opportunities. All it does is "stick it" to Breakers Point owners and other oceanfront homeowners because "they shouldn't have built there in the first place," ignoring the fact that some of the houses on Ocean Avenue are 100 years old.

Much of the dune-covered shoreland is private property, and some owners, like the Burmeister-Browns, spent a significant amount of money

to buy the dunes along Ocean Avenue to prevent others from trying to develop it.

The Ocean Avenue dunes are like a large public park, maintained at no cost to the city. All the owners want to do is to take the tops off every so often to maintain their views.

The City Council apparently thinks they are not worthy of this consideration, and so they will grow back to the level they were in the early '90s when no one could see the ocean or horizon.

I suggest the council invite Dr. Allan back down to a meeting to ask him what are the downsides of grading, and whether it is a threat to our safety, the environment or any other aspect of our lives.

Mike Morgan
Cannon Beach

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