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CANNON BEACH GAZETTE



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October 16, 2020

City leaders look to assist businesses during winter

Hilary Dorsey
For The Gazette

The Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce held a conference call Friday, Oct. 2, to get business input on ways to help the economy and businesses through the winter with COVID-19 guidelines in effect. The chamber had sent a survey to local businesses prior to the meeting. The chamber brought ideas to the city council meeting Tuesday, Oct. 6. City Manager Bruce St. Denis said if there is something the city can do to help businesses, they want to see if they can do it.

“Unless there’s a huge increase in cases or something like that, I don’t see a shutdown in our future,” St. Denis said during the Oct. 2 call. “I think what you will see is support for the businesses to be able to survive.”

Jim Paino, executive director of the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce, said another shutdown of businesses would be a huge concern for everyone. The chamber’s events have gone virtual due to the pandemic.

The council’s emergency declaration allowed accommodations to businesses to help them successfully get through the pandemic. This includes allowing outdoor dining and canopies in parking lots.

Paul Nofield, owner of Driftwood Restaurant & Lounge, said in the Oct. 2 call that parking lots are a good tool for outdoor dining but there needs to be a structure in place to protect from the wind and rain.

Paino said some concerns in the survey were about child care and housing, proper cleaning and sanitation.

St. Denis said there was one idea of marketing the city’s safety and public health. This might make a difference in whether someone chooses to visit Cannon Beach or not.

Paino said so far, indications seem good in terms of continued booking for hotels and short-term rentals. St. Denis said because Clatsop

County is on the governor’s Watch List for COVID-19, they may be pushed back to Phase 1. Paino said that was the number one concern of businesses that took the survey.

The council discussed the results of the survey during a work session Tuesday, Oct. 13. The council is considering recommendations of the chamber, residents and staff to see if there are steps the city can take to assist businesses during the winter.

Read our related story, by Kathleen Stinson about the chamber’s survey results.

Send comments to: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net



STORMY WEATHER’S A BREWIN’



The 33rd Annual Stormy Arts Festival featured artist’s Hazel Skaling Schlesinger’s November Skies Over Haystack Rock. Courtesy photo.

STORMY WEATHER ARTS FESTIVAL BLOWS INTO TOWN NOV. 6-8

For the Gazette

jwarren@countrymedia.net

For 33 years, the Stormy Weather Arts Festival on the first weekend in November has been one of Cannon Beach’s most popular events. You can immerse yourself in the creative culture that has long been a part of this community recognized as one of the 100 best art towns in America. The weekend offers musical performances and gallery events with the opportunity to meet renowned artists, see their latest works or watch them demonstrate their techniques.

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Cannon Beach is home to over a dozen art galleries. Many of their most successful national and regional artists, as well as prominent local artists, will be showcased during the festival.

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Music Around Town

Saturday, Nov. 7

11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Locations: The Landing, Sandpiper Square, Coaster Theatre Courtyard, Ecola Square

Check the Chamber website for the latest updates on additional weekend events.

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Chamber of Commerce

Thank you to sponsors Bronze Coast Gallery, Jeffrey Hull Gallery and The Wine Shack.

Featured Festival Artist: Hazel Skaling Schlesinger

“I am a native of Cannon Beach area and had the good fortune of growing up in this magical spot... I spent many

wonderful years teaching at the Cannon Beach Elementary School.

“November Skies Over Haystack Rock” was done en Plein Air from one of my favorite coastal views. I sat my easel up just a mere foothold away from Hwy 101 bracing myself against the downdraft of several log trucks and resisted the temptation to pack up and get to a safer perch. Often while Plein Air painting the perfect scene is not the most convenient for the painter, but challenge taken is most always rewarded. I have painted on location several times because of the sweeping panoramic view offered to those who stop and take it in.

Original artwork on display at Northwest By Northwest Gallery 232 North Spruce St. in Cannon Beach.”

Event URL: www.cannonbeach.org/swaf

For the full list of galleries and their event details visit www.cbgallerygroup.com

In an effort to continue the Stormy Weather Arts Festival and respect the safety and well-being of all our attendees every measure is being made to have a COVID safe event.

Read related story on page 2 in this issue, by Hilary Dorsey about how the event will remain COVID-19 safe for locals and visitors.

Business owners react to leaders plans to help them stay open

Kathleen Stinson

For The Gazette

Local businesses are facing the double challenges of the effects of COVID-19 and the off-season nature of travel to Cannon Beach in the winter.

The city of Cannon Beach Council met Tuesday, Oct. 13, in work session to discuss ways it might help local businesses get through the off-season winter months. That spilled into a need to extend the discussion to the 20th.

“The City’s COVID-19 Emergency Declaration gave staff the ability to approve certain conditions that are not normally allowed under our ordinances to assist our businesses in dealing with the effects of the pandemic,” City Manager Bruce St. Denis stated in a report in the council packet.

Last April, The Gazette reported that the city had \$302,000 in its Tourism and Arts Fund reserves, available for a cash grant program to individual businesses. Many businesses received grant money.

Maggie and Henry is one local business whose traffic was affected by the COVID-19 situation.

Margo Dueber, co-owner of Maggie and Henry, talked with The Gazette about why they decided to close the walk-in store part of the business at the end of September.

Maggie and Henry, a store that sold casual weekend wear for men and women, operated in “one form or another since the mid-80s,” Dueber said. They will continue their business online at maggieandhenry.com.

“COVID was a big hit (to the business),” Dueber said. “My lease was up. I had to make a decision [whether to remain in business] in this environment or keep just the online store.”

Recently, business owners completed a survey asking for ideas on how the city could help them get through the winter.

Jim Paino, executive director of the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce, said at the Wednesday, Oct. 14, Morning Meeting that the council decided to continue the discussion at a special session on Oct. 20.

Some ideas included bringing more people into Cannon Beach by relaxing the short term rental 14 day rule something like what was done in the summer. This would allow property owners to rent their homes more days of the month.

Greg Swedenborg, president of the chamber of commerce board, was at the Wednesday Morning Meeting. Swedenborg said the 1,800 people who live in Cannon Beach are not going to be able to support all the businesses by themselves.

At the Wednesday Morning Meeting, people discussed some ideas for helping businesses.

George Vetter said the store doors are blocked off while people are filtered to go inside. Outdoor merchandising might be a partial solution.

Paino said the tents outside the stores would have to be sturdy enough to withstand the winter weather.

Swedenborg said the businesses need help now not after the planning department studies the issue for months. One advantage relaxing the short term rental rule has is it would not require months of planning study to change an ordinance.



Photo: Hilary Dorsey

Cache sites open to public Saturday in Cannon Beach

Kathleen Stinson
For The Gazette

The Cannon Beach Survival Cache Sites will be open Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon.

City Emergency Manager Rick Hudson said the sites are open two times a year. The other day is always the third Saturday in April.

At these times, residents who have containers stored at the site may refresh and add to what they have in the barrels, he said.

The city has enough food and water at the sites to last the entire population of Cannon Beach for about 14 days, Hudson said. The individually owned containers provide a place for residents who live in the inundation zone, for example, to store important documents or “maybe a tent – enough supplies to keep them going for two weeks.”

He said he recommends residents store a water filtra-

tion system. “I wouldn’t recommend just storing water; it takes up a lot of space.”

“Everyone who comes to Cannon Beach should have a go bag,” he said, referring to the crowds of visitors who sometimes attend beach events. “We need people to bring their own go bags to the coast when they visit here.”

The barrel or container program is gaining momentum with an increasing number of barrels stored at the site, he said. The containers are locked and stored in locked buildings.

In the event of a tsunami, if a small number of people have prepared and a large number of residents come to the high ground site unprepared, “eventually (those few supplies) will become community property,” he said. “That’s exactly what we want to avoid. That is a reason to encourage people to have their go bags and barrels.”

Community Emergency

Response Team volunteers manage the site when opened, he said. “In case of an event, CERT managers will be at the sites.”

The success of cache site programs has a history, he said. “The military has always had cache site programs around the world and in this country, where it stores oil, fuel, medical supplies, food and shelter.”

“The concept of having a city survival cache site is not new, he said. “In a place like this with such a high risk of a tsunami, it is important to have these containers.”

“A lot of people have these supplies in their homes, but if you can’t do that, we encourage people to have a container” at a city safety cache site, he said.

“Nothing takes the place of a go bag that is always with you, and an evacuation bag,” that can be ready in a few hours, he said.

The city charges a storage



fee of \$55 a year for a 55 gallon barrel, \$30 for a 30 gallon barrel and \$5 for a five gallon bucket, he said.

The city continues to hold its Wayfinding Wednesdays so residents can practice walking from their home to an assembly area on higher ground to become familiar with the process in the event of a tsunami evacuation.

Chamber, galleries discuss upcoming Stormy Weather Arts Festival

Hilary Dorsey
For The Gazette

The Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce discussed the Stormy Weather Arts Festival with local art galleries during a virtual breakfast meeting Tuesday, Oct. 13. This year’s focus is health and safety during COVID-19.

The festival will be held Nov. 6-8. For 33 years, it has been one of Cannon Beach’s most popular events.

Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jim Paino said given the COVID-19 world we live in, they had several meetings about what the festival would look like.

“This will be the first event in Cannon Beach out of the gate that’s going to be a major event for our community,” Paino said. “It typically draws a lot of people.”

Several people from participating galleries talked about what they are planning to do for the festival.

Bronze Coast Gallery Managing Director Joe Clayton said for Stormy Weather this year, the musical events

would not be held like they have in the past.

“To try to keep the energy in the festival going, there are several locations around town where we can still have music and have that be done through social distancing as well,” Clayton said. “There will be some outside energy to this event.”

The chamber has made sure COVID-19 requirements are being met. Clayton said clients would contact the gallery directly to make appointments. The gallery will be open Nov. 6 by appointment. They will have two artists on Nov. 7 and another artist on Nov. 8.

Clayton said he feels the gallery staff will be able to politely shut the door if they meet occupancy and would ask people to come back.

Icefire Glassworks owner Jim Kingwell said the gallery has one guest artist coming for the festival. They will be weather-dependent on whether they can set up appointments to meet with artist Mark Gordon.

Carol Hull, of Jeffrey Hull Gallery, said the gallery will not be



In this Gazette file photo, music is a big part of the overall experience at the Stormy Weather Arts Festival. The Chamber has scheduled music as part of the celebration again this year.

doing appointments with artists. They have an entrance and exit for the gallery. Hours will be extended 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Check the Chamber website for the latest updates on additional weekend events.

Send comments to: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net

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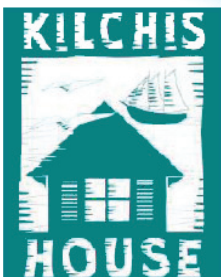
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62 They succeeded audiotapes
65 "Yikes!"
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68 Ward (off)
69 Alley hisser
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72 Dust devil's cousins
75 Old overlord
127 Beer barrel
128 See 116-Down
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North Coast Rocky Habitat Coalition hopes to protect beach wildlife

Kathleen Stinson
For The Gazette

At low tide, people walk near the tide pools, where black oystercatchers nest above the high tide line in rocky coastal areas. People walking near these birds' nests can frighten the mother bird away, causing the eggs to become cold and exposing the babies to predators. Margaret Treadwell, coordinator of the North Coast Rocky Habitat Coalition, is part of a very small group of people trying to put together a proposal to ask the state to raise the baseline level of protection for sensitive wildlife in a few areas on the Oregon Coast. The group has three volunteers, a board member

from the Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition and some help from the Portland Audubon Society, Treadwell said. In Oregon, the burden for producing the complicated proposal falls entirely on the community, she said. "So there is one person at the state in charge of the entire process. As far as writing the proposal and researching to write the proposal, the state provides very little resources." Help from the state on this is insufficient, she added. Treadwell made a presentation at the recent Cannon Beach City Council meeting, explaining the proposal process and asking for help from volunteers to work on the proposals. They also want letters of support from

individual residents as well as one from the city. She told The Gazette the public may not encounter these birds' nests when walking the tide pool areas on the coast of California. That is probably because the birds have left the area for a safer place. She said she was amazed at the number of wildlife and seabirds on the coast of Oregon, when she first came to the state. One of the sites where the group wants the state to raise the level of protection is Chapman Point/Bird Rocks where there is high human impact on nesting birds, as stated in the presentation. Recently, the coalition conducted a site visit of the area as well as the other two currently under consider-



Margaret Treadwell, center (pointing), of North Coast Rocky Habitat Coalition, discusses a potential new site designation for Ecola Point with coalition volunteers, community members, and representatives from Haystack Rock Awareness Program on September 19. Representatives from Oregon State Parks and Wildlife Center of the North Coast also participated in the site visit.
Photo courtesy of Frances Buchanan



Black Oystercatchers. *File photo*

ation for proposals: Ecola Point/Sea Lion Rocks and Tillamook Head, she said. An ocean beach ranger, two people from the Haystack Awareness Program and a coordinator from the Wildlife Center of the North Coast joined the group on the site visit. "The most acute example of human impact the visitors saw was six or seven black oystercatchers nesting from Chapman Point to Ecola Point," she said. "During low tides, people can walk up to and past their nests—sometimes unknowingly. The birds are skittish around

people and may leave their nest." If people repeatedly walk past the nests, "the eggs don't hatch or the chicks don't survive," she said. Also, some off-leash dogs have been known to attack the birds. "There is a very limited ability of the state park to enforce the rules in the area," she said. "There is one beach ranger (who patrols) from Manzanita to Ecola State Park. He can't be everywhere all the time." The group plans to submit "one or two proposals—it depends on how much

human power we get from volunteers," she said. The proposals are due to the Oregon Ocean Policy Advisory Council by Dec. 31, as stated in the council packet. Although the last time the state asked for proposals was in 1994, Treadwell said she thinks there will be opportunities to submit proposals more frequently than that in the future. *For information about volunteering or sending letters of support, contact the northcoastrockyhabitat@gmail.com.*

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State Senate Dist. 32 candidates face off in forum

Suzanne Weber

Suzanne Weber, age 73

Occupation: Mayor of Tillamook

Education: Bachelor's degree, Elementary Education, Bemidji State College

Family: Husband Tom (deceased), five children

Why are you running for state representative? As a nonpartisan mayor for the last 10 years, I've reached out to our legislators of both parties to advocate for my community. Over the last two years, I watched as our legislator completely ignored us. Despite numerous times inviting her to learn about us, our businesses and our needs, I was always rebuffed. Then I watched as that legislator voted for legislation that would destroy the jobs and families in the community I've loved and fought for during my 50 years here. I knew we deserved better representation, and with my nearly 20 years experience as a nonpartisan local leader, I believe that I'm the right person to bring our common sense to Salem. I want to ensure our farmers, loggers, truckers and fishermen have their jobs protected. I want to ensure our law enforcement officers are fully funded. I want to fully fund schools FIRST. That's common sense.

What experience/skills do you have that makes you the best candidate? I spent 30 years as a public school teacher, as well as a salary negotiator for our teachers. I don't just understand the needs of our teachers and



students because of some partisan talking points. I watched it for three decades. I bought school supplies for students who couldn't afford them. I bought food for students because I knew they weren't being fed at home. Those experiences are burned in my memory and I will remember them when I get to Salem. I also spent nearly 15 years as a small business owner, so I know the daily challenges that they face. For the last two decades, I've served as a nonpartisan city councilor and mayor. I understand the challenges of our communities and have worked for solutions without regard to party. I've also served at the state level on committees on housing and transportation.

What challenges do you see facing District 32 and how will you overcome those challenges? We need to ensure that broadband

internet service is available to everyone. While it's not an issue in Portland or Eugene, it's a big issue in rural Oregon. That's why I've used my relationships in the legislature to already propose a bill for the 2021 Legislative Session to provide funding for broadband internet expansion in counties with populations under 100,000. With so much of school and work now being done virtually, this is an immediate need. Housing is another pressing need. We cannot grow our businesses unless we have a place for employees to live. This is an issue that will require state, local and federal partnerships to reduce bureaucracy and costs while also ensuring our small districts, cities and counties have the funds they need to provide system maintenance and health. These are nonpartisan issues that need an experienced, nonpartisan leader to make happen.

Debbie Boothe-Schmidt

Debbie Boothe-Schmidt, age 65

Education: Associate's Degree

Family: Married with two daughters and one granddaughter

Why are you running for State Representative District 32? I am running because I will be a voice for our rural communities, working families and small businesses. I know many people in our district are struggling. I will fight for everyone to be able to put food on the table, a roof over their heads, fully funded schools, good healthcare and opportunity to own a small business no matter who you are or the challenges you have faced. I moved here 30 years ago as a single mom and worked two jobs, making hard decisions between putting food on the table and taking my girls to the doctor. A few years later I was hired for a union job, got healthcare and eventually became a small business owner. The union didn't just offer me security but an opportunity to become an advocate for people in our community. This experience motivated me to continue my advocacy on the transportation board.

What experience/skills do you have that makes you the best candidate?

A supporter recently said he is voting for me because I am "an everyday folk just like him". I have lived in rural Oregon for most of my life. I have tended bars, worked on fishing boats, and volunteered as an EMT. I have worked in the Clatsop County criminal justice system for 23 years while owning a small business for 20 of those years. While chair of the Sunset Empire Transportation board, I advocated for better transportation in our community. I



have weathered this pandemic as a small business owner. As a 13 year union leader, I bargained for better pay and benefits for families in HD 32 and I know how to bring everyone to the table, compromise and move forward on the difficult issues. Our district is divided right now and I want to unite to bring all of our voices to Salem.

What challenges do you see facing District 32 and how will you overcome those challenges?

District 32 is suffering from a lack of affordable housing, making Clatsop County number one per capita of people experiencing home-

lessness. We also have a lack of affordable and accessible health care, which includes mental health care and care for our veterans. We need to incentivize doctors coming to the district regularly so we don't have to travel for care. Our schools need to be fully funded, and with learning online, we need to push for increased broadband access. When I get to Salem, there are going to be tough budget decisions being made. I will advocate to make sure our rural community is getting funding to address the lack of affordable housing and healthcare and I will ensure our schools and small businesses get the support they need.

Majority of Oregonians now taking steps to limit spread of COVID-19

Monique Merrill
chronicle2@countrymedia.net

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has a glimpse into Oregonians' actions and attitudes relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In two statewide surveys commissioned by the OHA, the results show a majority of Oregonians' are taking steps to limit the spread of COVID-19, but some are still wary of the efficacy of personal protective measures as case counts across the state continue to trend upward.

"Over the past few weeks we've seen a steady rise of COVID-19 cases in Oregon," OHA Deputy State Health Officer Thomas Jeanne said. "When a virus is in a community, we know it will spread if people don't take precautions. This increase in cases has reversed the progress we made in late summer."

The study illuminated the patterns and behaviors of individuals around the state and gives the OHA a baseline to move forward with public health messaging to encourage residents to stay safe.

"We did find that Oregonians are avoiding large group gatherings, somewhat," said Michelle Neiss, president of DHM Research, the company that conducted one of the surveys. The results of the DHM survey, which sampled 1,009 residents, indicated that 20% of Oregonians attended a gathering of 10 people or more in the two weeks prior to responding. "Those are the kinds of

events that are high risk and can further community spread which brings the virus into workplaces, nursing homes and make people sick," OHA Director of Communications Rob Cowie said.

Overall, the survey found that people who gather together frequently are the ones who are more skeptical that protective measures help, Neiss said.

For example, 52% of respondents who answered that they are unlikely to quarantine if they contract the virus also answered that they do not believe it is necessary.

A separate survey focused on Latinx Oregonians by Lara Media found that 69.4% of the 468 respondents said they were very likely to stay home if they experienced any COVID-19 symptoms or were exposed to someone with the virus.

Of those who answered they would not stay home, 42.9% said they would not stay home because they are the only one in their household who works and they need to support their family.

"Keep in mind most of the people we interview are essential workers, which puts them in a higher risk of getting the virus," said Victoria Lara, owner of Lara Media.

Of Latinx residents between the ages of 18-24, about seven out of 10 stated they were very worried about friends and family getting the virus more so than themselves.

About four in 10 respondents to the DHM survey said they would definitely get the vaccine if it becomes available, and about three in 10 of respon-

dents to the Lara Media survey said they would definitely get the vaccine.

The important thing to focus on is continuing to take personal protective measures, Cowie said.

"Even when vaccine comes, it will not be a silver bullet," Cowie said. "We will all need to engage in these behaviors for a while."

Measures like wearing masks when around others, keeping six feet of physical distance between others, washing hands and avoiding large gatherings are all important steps in reducing COVID-19 transmission, he said.

On whether these results as a whole should be interpreted optimistically, Jeanne said it was a mixed bag.

"There's good news that most Oregonians are taking it seriously, and taking measures to protect themselves and others," Jeanne said. "However, with the increase we're seeing, we know not everyone is."

As schools around the state have started to reopen, the OHA has started to track and report which schools have had any cases of COVID-19. Fourteen schools in the state have had cases of COVID-19, six of those schools had only one case reported.

"It's really a balancing act between preventing COVID but also making sure we're getting kids in schools to the extent possible, Jeanne said. "We don't want to open schools and have them close right away. It's a big issue."

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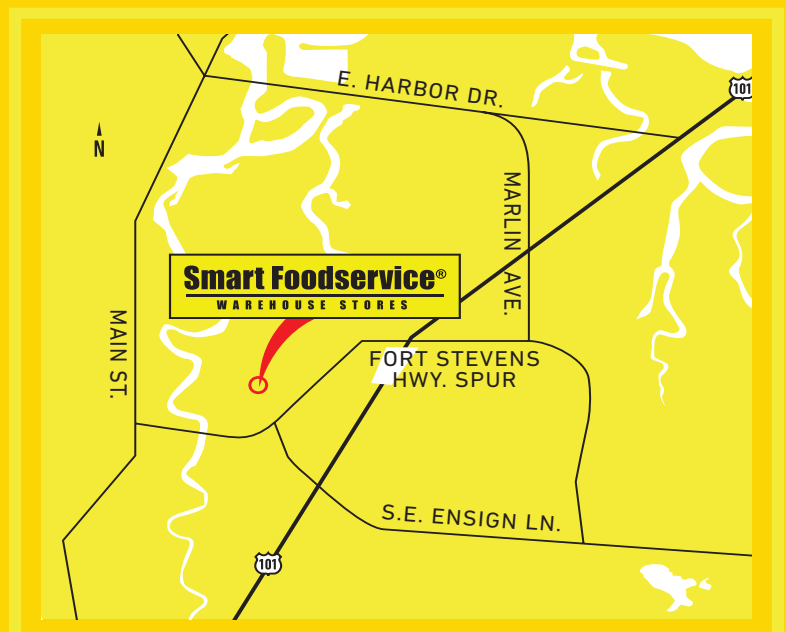
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