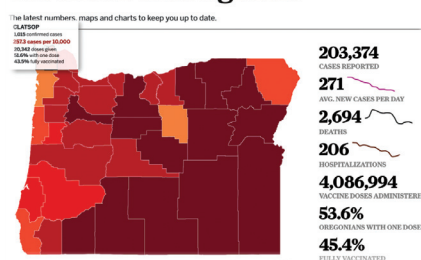




Art in the Park returns

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Coronavirus at a glance



County Risk Levels updated

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CANNON BEACH GAZETTE



VOL. 45, ISSUE 11 FREE

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June 11, 2021

Restaurant owners speak up about proposed food tax

Kathleen Stinson
For The Gazette

In previous articles, The Gazette covered the Cannon Beach City Council's discussion about assessing a possible food and beverage tax.

In this story, the newspaper covers what some restaurant owners think about instigating such a tax in Cannon Beach.

John Newman, co-owner of Newmans at 988 restaurant in Cannon Beach said he has been in business for 15 years. "The timing on this is poor – just coming off the pandemic."

"We're just getting up on our feet again," Newman said. "To put this

on the restaurants – the least profitable business in town – is ... I get it, take care of the fire department. (But), this is like kicking a dog when he's down."

Paul Nofield, owner of the Driftwood Restaurant & Lounge in Cannon Beach, told The Gazette the restaurants are "fighting to stay alive. It's not just the tax. It's more than the tax that goes into it. The cost of food and beverage is going up faster than you can print menus."

"A lot of restaurants would like to open seven days a week, but they can't because of the labor issue," Nofield said. "It's a full-blown workers crisis crippling local restaurants." He said a 5 percent food and

beverage tax would be "huge." It's not just the visitors who will pay that tax but the locals too.

"If you live in Cannon Beach and go out to dinner and spend a hundred dollars, your tax is \$20 on that," he said. People might instead eat in Seaside to save the tax money.

"If I hadn't put money into my restaurant over the years, I wouldn't have a restaurant," he said. Yet the city has made investments over the years buying the RV Park, Cannon Beach Elementary School and other land speculation.

"A manager would make sure their infrastructure had been put in place a long time ago," he said. "They've had plenty of money over

70 years to build their city hall..." To ask for millions of dollars now to build a city hall/police station facility is...

"Over the past 70 years, they've known they were going to have a problem and should have addressed it decades ago and now all of a sudden we have a problem?" He suggests the city take some time to find "different alternative solutions."

Nofield sent the following letter to the Cannon Beach City Council: <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/>

See TAX, Page 3



Junior Naturalists Summer Camp: Two weeks of fun

YOUNG STEWARDS



Wildlife Center of the North Coast is excited to announce their third annual summer camp for kids.

The non-profit wildlife rehabilitation center is welcoming students entering third through sixth grade who want to learn about animals and discover the outdoors, to join them at their facility for Jr. Naturalists Summer Camp. The facility, set on 105 acres, provides an eco-rich landscape for campers to explore. During the week, campers will visit wetlands, forests, and other habitats at the center, and then learn about the animals and plants that call these ecosystems home. Campers will have the opportunity to design and create models of animal adaptations, write and draw about living things native to the Pacific Northwest, and play games to find out more about local species.

Wildlife Center of the North Coast is a working rehabilitation center for local animals. Campers will attend an exclusive tour of the center and learn about animal recovery at the facility, as well as the careers that make this possible.

Junior Naturalists Summer Camp will be held June 21-25 for third and fourth graders, and June 28 – July 2 for fifth and sixth graders. Each week, camp is held Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to noon—registration is \$175 per camper. There are a limited number of scholarships available.

To apply, contact Josh Saranpa at josh@coastwildlife.org. For more information about the camp and to register, visit www.CoastWildlife.org.

The Wildlife Center of the North Coast

(WCNC) is a non-profit wildlife hospital and conservation education facility that has been operating out of Astoria for nearly 24 years. WCNC takes in injured, orphaned, and sick native wildlife with a goal to return them, healed, back to the wild. WCNC serves the Oregon Coast, and is currently the only wildlife hospital in Oregon that specializes in seabird rehabilitation.

In addition to wildlife rehabilitation, WCNC provides meaningful, in-depth environmental conservation educational programming, including our annual Youth Summer Camp.

For more information, you can visit the center's website at Coastwildlife.org or our Social Media @ [wildlifecenterofthenorthcoast](https://www.instagram.com/wildlifecenterofthenorthcoast) (Facebook) and @ [wildlifecenterastoria](https://www.instagram.com/wildlifecenterastoria) (Instagram).



Back to Business and better than ever!

City looks to Governor for reopening guidance

Kathleen Stinson
For The Gazette

Some people have questions about when city hall will reopen and why it is closed, since stores and restaurants are open.

"Clatsop County moved to the 'lower risk' category of state mandated COVID-19 business and social guidelines beginning Friday June 4, based on lower rate of infections," as stated on the county website.

The Gazette interviewed Cannon Beach City Manager Bruce St. Denis Monday, June 7, who said they are considering reopening city hall but the "rules from the Governor's office are not clear yet" with respect to public buildings, "so we thought we'd wait and find out what they decide."

The Gazette contacted Gov. Kate Brown's press office Monday to inquire about the rules.

The governor's Press Secretary Liz Merah said: "There is no current requirement that offices or public buildings be closed to the public; there is only a recommendation to close offices to the public in Extreme Risk counties (currently no county is in Extreme Risk). See this guidance table for more details: <https://sharedsystems.dhsosha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/le3461.pdf>.

Organizations that choose to open to the public must adhere to the following guidance, which include requirements for face coverings and capacity limits:

- Statewide Guidance on Masks, Face Coverings, and Face Shields: <https://sharedsystems.dhsosha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/le2288K.pdf>

- General Guidance for Employers and Organizations: <https://sharedsystems.dhsosha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/le2342c.pdf>

St. Denis said anyone who wants to pay their bill to the city may come to the window at city hall and stand outside to pay or they can pay it over the phone.

He said residents may attend council meetings via Zoom but no one may attend in person yet. People who need to see a planning department staff member may make an appointment to come inside.

City Emergency Manager Rick Hudson said Monday: "We have been working on our plan to reopen city hall."

Jen Dixon, manager of the Cannon Beach Library, a non-profit organization said the library has been open to an extent since last July.

The governor has not provided guidelines for opening libraries, Dixon said. They are looking to the American Library Association and other libraries for guidance.

She said the library allows limited browsing but patrons cannot yet use the internet inside the library. They can sit outside and access the Wifi.

They are still not allowing in-person meetings at the library but hope in September to have the Northwest Authors Series open again. The Cannon Beach book club might start in-person meetings soon depending on the governor's position on the matter.

The library is currently open from noon to 4 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, which will probably be expanded in the next month or two.

City increases building maintenance budget

Hilary Dorsey
For The Gazette

Cannon Beach City Council passed during a meeting Tuesday, June 1, a resolution for approving increases and decreases to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget by making an intrafund transfer of appropriations for building maintenance.

The building maintenance budget covers the cost of facility janitorial and kitchen supplies, facility structure and systems maintenance, the staff report stated. During the 2020-2021 budget process, it was not known what types of costs might need to be incurred in the budget as a result of COVID-19.

City Manager Bruce St. Denis said the resolution is related to expenses due to COVID-19. There have been additional sanitizing products on hand to keep offices, kitchen supplies, facility structure and systems maintenance.

"Also, we've added a service window to the finance department so we didn't have people coming in," St. Denis said.

A ventilation system was installed in the police department and modifications were made to council chambers to facili-

tate zoom meetings, the resolution states. Staff does not foresee any major work for the building from now until the end of the year, although additional cleaning supplies may be required.

None of those COVID-19 related projects were budgeted, St. Denis added. He asked to increase the budget by \$25,000 to cover the additional expenditures that were unanticipated at the time of budgeting. Contingency will be used to amend the executive department budget and increase expenditures in the

amount of \$25,000 to cover the unanticipated expenditures that are mainly related to the pandemic.

"That would be made to happen with the adoption of Resolution 21-18," St. Denis said.

The resolution was discussed at a previous work session May 18. The council approved Resolution 21-18 unanimously during the June 1 meeting.

Send comments to: headlightreporter@countrymedia.net



Some residents say, graffiti is on the rise in Cannon Beach

Kathleen Stinson
For The Gazette

Some residents have noticed an increase in the incidence of graffiti in Cannon Beach. Cannon Beach Police Chief Jason Schermerhorn said: "Graffiti does happen from time to time in different areas of the city with no particular pattern. We have placed some

cameras in some of the locations to try to determine who is doing the vandalism. We are planning on getting more camera's to monitor other areas to prevent more unnecessary damage." Cannon Beach resident Zoe Swain said she wouldn't be "surprised" to learn there is more graffiti in town now than there used to be. Swain said she has noticed more

people who don't look like the normal residents coming into town. "I grew up here and in the last five to 10 years, I've seen a shift of people coming to town from Portland or from the city," she said. They might be bringing graffiti with them. "I don't see the local young people doing that," she said. "We're getting such an influx of people from the city coming here, it wouldn't

surprise me if they brought that with them." Another resident of Cannon Beach, Rachel Speakman, said she moved here from Chicago. When you see graffiti in the small town of Cannon Beach, "it has a very stark, different resonance" than when you see it in a big city. "In a small town people try to take care of each other and pick up

trash," she said. "If you are from a small town, you have a certain respect" for people's property. "You would think that's Steve's store" and wouldn't put graffiti on it. "If you're not from here, you don't have that kind of mentality." "There is a problem with our dumpster on Spruce Street," she said. "Someone is putting tags on that."

Governor Kate Brown announces updates to county risk levels

Clatsop County remains in Lower Risk

Gov. Kate Brown announced Tuesday, June 8, updates to county risk levels under the state's public health framework to reduce transmission and protect Oregonians from COVID-19. Clatsop County remains in Lower Risk. Lane, Coos, and Wasco counties will move down to Lower Risk, and Josephine and Yamhill counties will move down to Moderate Risk, effective Wednesday, June 9. Harney County will move up from Lower Risk to Moderate Risk due to rising case counts, effective Friday, June 11. Harney County had been granted a caution period from June 4 through June 10. Effective through Thursday, June 17, there will be 21 counties at the Lower Risk level, 4 at Moderate Risk, and 11 at the High Risk level. "Oregon is so close to more fully reopening our economy, and I am grateful to everyone who has stepped up to get vaccinated. We will

soon need to reach fewer than 100,000 Oregonians to achieve our statewide vaccination goal of 70% and lift the county risk level framework," said Governor Kate Brown. "But, for unvaccinated individuals, COVID-19 remains as large a threat as it ever was. With more contagious variants spreading, far too many Oregonians are still being hospitalized when they could be protected with a vaccine. If you have been waiting to get vaccinated, go get your shot today. It's never been easier to get an appointment, and you may just win \$1 million through the Take Your Shot, Oregon campaign." On May 11, Brown announced that counties that vaccinate at least 65 percent of their adult residents with at least one dose and submit documentation on how they will close equity gaps in their vaccination efforts are eligible to move to the Lower Risk level. A county vaccination data dashboard is available on OHA's website. Please note that the dashboard displays state vaccine allocations only, and does not track federally administered vaccine doses. Lane County moved this week after achieving a 65% vaccina-

tion rate and submitting an equity plan. All other counties moved based on case counts and positivity rates.

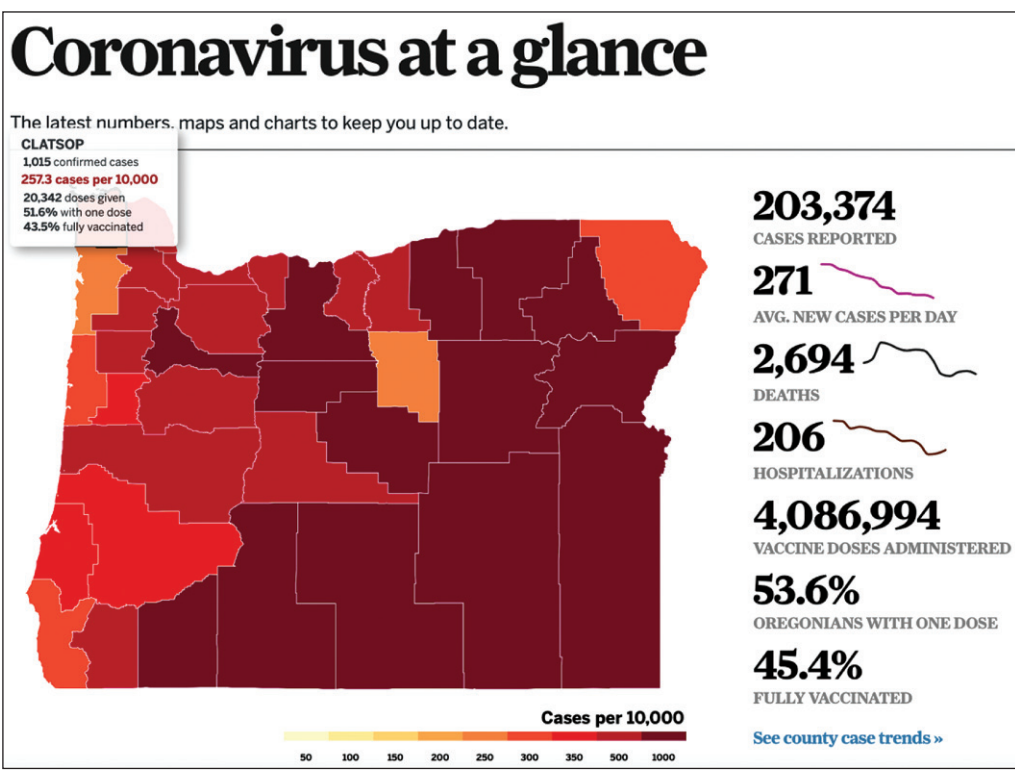
Weekly County Movements

As case rates continue to decline, county risk level changes will be announced every week. Counties can move to lower risk levels based either on vaccination rates and the submission of an equity plan, or declining case rates and positivity rates. The next risk level changes will be announced on Tuesday, June 15, to take effect on Friday, June 18.

When Oregon achieves a first dose 70 percent statewide vaccination rate for residents 18 or older, Oregon will lift all risk level health and safety restrictions. Some restrictions based on CDC guidance for use of masks and physical distancing may remain in place.

Risk levels by county

- Lower Risk (21)**
 - Baker
 - Benton
 - Clatsop
 - Coos (Moved from Moderate)
 - Curry
 - Deschutes



- High Risk (11)**
 - Clackamas
 - Columbia
 - Crook
 - Douglas
 - Jackson
 - Jefferson
 - Klamath
 - Linn
 - Malheur
 - Marion
 - Umatilla
- Moderate Risk (4)**
 - Harney (Moved from Lower)
 - Josephine (Moved from High)
 - Polk
 - Yamhill (Moved from High)
- Moderate)**
 - Washington
 - Wheeler
- Lower**
 - Lane (Moved from Moderate)
 - Lincoln
 - Morrow
 - Multnomah
 - Sherman
 - Tillamook
 - Union
 - Wallowa
 - Wasco (Moved from Moderate)
- Extreme Risk (0)**

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SUNNY CORNER LOT CASTLE ROCK ESTATES, ARCH CAPE,
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SALE PENDING

EXQUISITE NEW CONSTRUCTION BEACH HOME,
\$949,000

SALE PENDING

BEAUTIFUL NEW CONSTRUCTION BEACH HOME,
\$949,000

SALE PENDING

OCEAN VIEW - MANUFACTURED HOME
\$479,000

SOLD

COZY CANNON BEACH A-FRAME
\$449,000

2 UNITS SOLD

1/12TH SHARE CONDO AVAILABLE
\$85,000

Oregon faces dangerous wildfire season, again

Jeremy C. Ruark
jruark@countrymedia.net

Oregon is moving into a more dangerous and more intense wildfire season complicated by the state's continued and deepening drought. That is the overall assessment presented during a media briefing Thursday afternoon, June 3, conducted by Gov. Kate Brown's office that included a number of state agency representatives. "We are seeing longer duration and more complex fires," Oregon State Fire Marshal Mariana Ruiz-Temple said. "We are looking at fires in a different way this year and there is significant concern of the fires we are seeing and where these fires are." Much of Oregon is facing abnormal drought conditions, according to Oregon Department of Forestry Fire Protection Chief Doug Grafe. "Continued drought conditions persist and weather conditions are complicating the drought," Grafe said. "Over the next three months temperatures are projected to be above normal and precipitation below normal through August and September." The official May-June-July forecast from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center shows higher chances of above-normal temperatures and below-normal precipitation for most of the region, which indicates that drought conditions are likely to get worse in the coming months.

The Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook shows higher chances of wildfire potential east of the Cascade crest throughout Oregon and in southwest Washington by June and July, according to NOAA. According to the latest water outlook report issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service, nearly all reservoirs in the Klamath Basin are storing less than 50% capacity, and basin streamflows are expected to run between 8% to 49% through the summer. In addition to the worsening impacts already being felt across the region, there is also the potential for dry conditions to impact drinking water, endangered species and wetland ecosystems, and fire danger, the NOAA report states. Grafe said Oregon has ready experienced 300 fires this year which is well above normal. Comparing the devastating wildfires that spread across the state last year, Grafe state the 2020 event was an ailment of natural forces that was unprecedented. "Any weather event that will be close to that, such as dry lightning, will put us at significant risk," he said. Oregon Office of Emergency Management Director Andrew Phelps said the state is quickly ramping up its

See **WILDFIRE**, Page 6

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Oregon Senate approves Juneteenth as official state holiday

Last week, the Oregon Senate passed House Bill 2168, a bill to make Juneteenth an official state holiday every June 19 beginning in 2022. This holiday will serve to honor the freedom of enslaved people in the United States, acknowledge Oregon's racist roots and celebrate the contributions of Black Americans in the face of inequity and systemic oppression.

"The Emancipation Proclamation news arrived in waves to the enslaved Black women and men of my family," said Senator Lew Frederick (D-N/NE Portland) who

carried House Bill 2168. "Family stories say, 'joy was the first emotion, and next skepticism'."

"However, hope stood at the center of a possible future for my family and so many families," added Senator Frederick. "That hope continues to this day. So does the skepticism. The two can dance together, and in that dance, we can progress, and we can amplify hope."

On June 19, 1865, Union General Gordon Granger rode into Galveston, Texas and issued General Order Number 3, which required

the immediate freedom of more than 250,000 enslaved African Americans in Texas. Union troops marched throughout Galveston to spread the word that all slaves were free. Juneteenth is also known as Emancipation Day, Jubilee Day and Freedom Day.

In Oregon, the Peoples family are well known for their efforts to ensure Juneteenth is observed. "Miss Clara Peoples is foundational to Oregon, her family is the reason we have unofficially observed this holiday and the Peoples have remained central in framing the

expectation of a more equitable tomorrow," said Senator Frederick.

"Juneteenth is not the date all slaves were freed. Juneteenth is not the date that Black Americans, or Black Oregonians, were guaranteed comfort, relief or safety," said Senator Frederick. "Also, Juneteenth was a step forward and a marker of hope, one we must continue to build upon. This official holiday will recognize that the people of Oregon, despite our past, can take the veil of ignorance away, and each year choose to have hope — on Juneteenth and every day thereafter."

"With House Bill 2168, we can learn from another time. We can change the future now, in real time. We can work towards equality — even without a declaration or official holiday. We must. Celebrating Juneteenth will help each of us remember all that we can and must do to ensure a more just future," concluded Senator Frederick.

House Bill 2168 passed the Oregon Senate unanimously, it now goes to the House or Representatives for concurrence.

OHA: Businesses must see proof of vaccination to forgo mask rules

Staff

Oregon businesses, employers and faith institutions must review proof of vaccination in order to ease up on state masking and social distancing rules, the Oregon Health Authority announced Tuesday.

The state's newest guidance on the issue came after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced fully vaccinated individuals can safely remove their masks in many in-

stances.

"Under the updated guidance, people who are fully vaccinated will no longer be required to wear a mask indoors in most public settings where vaccination status is checked. In indoor public settings where vaccination status is not checked, masks will still be required," said state epidemiologist Dr. Dean Sidelinger.

Sidelinger addressed questions about the new policy in a press briefing Tuesday. Here are some answers to

a few top questions about the seismic shift in state policy, according to Sidelinger and the state's guidance.

Who counts as "fully vaccinated"?

Anyone who's more than two weeks past their second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine is considered fully vaccinated, according to OHA.

Do businesses need to require masks for patrons?

That depends. Under the new guidance, businesses can choose to either set up a system for verifying vaccination status before letting customers in, or continue to require masks and social distancing for all their patrons.

If businesses choose to verify vaccination status, those who are fully vaccinated can enter the business without a mask and without following social distancing rules.

"If they a process to review vaccination records and show that people are fully vaccinated, they're free to serve customers in that manner," Sidelinger said.

Businesses who don't verify customer vaccination status must still follow the same guidance as before, with indoor masking and social distancing in place.

"If they don't want to or cannot implement a system like that, they can continue to operate under the OHA guidance that requires masks and physical distancing in most indoor public settings," Sidelinger said.

The rest of the state's guidance still applies, including the four-tier risk level system, which places capacity limitations on businesses, according to Sidelinger.

Do unvaccinated people still need to wear masks inside?

Yes. For unvaccinated individuals, the same indoor masking and social distancing rules apply as before. That means masks are required in businesses and other indoor settings.

Are their places fully vaccinated people still have to wear masks?

Yes, there are some excep-



tions to the loosening of mask restrictions.

Fully vaccinated people still must wear masks in health care settings; jails, correctional and youth detention facilities; shelters and transitional housing; public transportation and transportation hubs; and K-12 schools, which are governed by a different set of rules.

How do businesses verify vaccination status?

Businesses need to review a COVID-19 vaccination card, Sidelinger said. That might include a physical vaccination card, a printout from a provider or a photo of a vaccination card on a cell phone.

Sidelinger said businesses should review the names and dates on the cards, making sure the individual's second dose of the vaccine was at least two weeks prior.

Businesses aren't required to record vaccination status, but just need to confirm that those entering a business are vaccinated.

"How they choose to keep track of that is an individual decision," Sidelinger said.

But isn't that a violation of privacy laws?

No. Federal medical privacy law prohibits medical providers and insurers from disclosing medical information to others without a patient's consent.

That law doesn't prohibit anyone from asking about someone else's vaccination status, and it doesn't prohibit anyone from voluntarily disclosing their own vaccination status, according to Sidelinger.

According to Sidelinger, those who don't want to get vaccinated or share the vaccination status don't have to.

"Those individuals can choose to get vaccinated, or if they choose not to, or don't want to share the fact that they're already vaccinated, they can wear a mask and keep their distance and be served by that business. Individuals have options, as do businesses in implementing this system," Sidelinger said.

What about outside?

Masks are no longer required for anyone outdoors. However, OHA's guidance still recommends unvaccinated individuals wear masks outdoors in crowded spaces where social distancing can't be maintained, especially for those who are at higher risk for serious complications with the virus.

That includes K-12 sports, which can be conducted maskless if vaccination status is verified, Sidelinger said.

Who enforces the rules? Just like the rest of the state's COVID-19 rules, the mask guidelines will still be enforced by state and local

health officials, Sidelinger said.

According to the doctor, Oregon OSHA conducts investigations and education on pandemic restrictions, and the Oregon Liquor Control Commission regulates businesses with liquor licenses.

Is this forever?

Probably not. Sidelinger said he expects the vaccination verification system policy to go away as the state continues to loosen restrictions.

"I don't anticipate that this sort of system will be in place forever. As (Gov. Kate Brown) announced last week, we have some goals in place for how we ease restrictions," Sidelinger said.

That'll happen when 70% of the state's 16-and-older population has received a first dose of the vaccine, and state health officials lift most aspects of the current restrictions.

Oregon loosened its mask guidance last week to allow fully vaccinated individuals to remove their masks in many instances. Some exceptions still apply, like hospitals, schools, public transportation and businesses which choose to require masks. (Contributed by Oregon Health Authority)

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H47255

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H63667

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SUB-BIDS REQUESTED

Shore Pines Housing
 Florence, Oregon
 Bids Due: 6/21/2021 by 12 PM
 Pre-Bid RFI's Due: 6/14/2021 by 12 PM

LMC Construction solicits bid proposals for Fire Protection, Plumbing, HVAC, Electrical, and Low Voltage scopes of work on the Shore Pines Housing project located in Florence, Oregon. Shore Pines is a new ground-up multi-family affordable housing project that will consist of full site development and construction of two (2) residential buildings that will house sixty-eight (68) units.

This bid solicitation is for Fire Protection, Plumbing, HVAC, and Electrical scopes only. Bidding for all other scopes of work will not be accepted and will take place at another time.

*This project is **NOT** subject to prevailing wages. Please use your standard private wages.

Construction to begin January 2022

All bidding documents & other information are located at link:
<https://lmcon.sharepoint.com/:f/g/EsS55guGhdHiMVMq-06ZjYBx4Svou4wx7QLLeQVhtQ34Tg?e=O0sF6F>

Bid Contact:
 Kyle Anderson (kylea@lmconstruction.com)

19200 SW Teton Avenue, Tualatin, OR 97062
P: (503) 646-0521 | F: (503) 646-6823

LMC Construction is an equal opportunity employer and requests sub-bids from all interested firms including emerging small business, women-owned, disadvantaged, disabled veterans and minority enterprises.

H63670

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LETTER POLICY
 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

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.
- Custom Obituary: You choose the length and wording of the announcement. The cost is \$75 for the first 200 words, \$50 for each additional 200 words. Includes a small photo at no additional cost.
- Premium Obituary: Often used by families who wish to include multiple photos with a longer announcement, or who wish to run a thank-you. Cost varies based on the length of the announcement.

All obituary announcements are placed on the Cannon Beach Gazette website at no cost.

Email obituaries to classifieds@orcoastnews.com

Art in the Park resumes June 20, promises to be a multi-sensory experience

Tolovana Arts Colony is excited to resume safe, outdoor programming with Art in the Park, a multi-sensory experience scheduled for 1-6 p.m. Sunday, June 20, at Necus Park/the old Cannon Beach Elementary School.

Now, there's so much going on... where to begin? The art show? The musical performances? The cultural significance? The food?

Well, let's just say there will be something for everyone. So here's the skinny:

When the pandemic figured to cancel the art colony's biggest annual fundraiser, Cannon Beach Puttz for the second straight year, the colony put their heads together and dreamed: What else could we do to celebrate community and help the Arts Colony as well as our local artists?

They came up with Art in the Park. There will be local artists exhibiting, local musicians playing, local actors performing and a whole lot of community coming together to celebrate.

Another way to think of it: a street fair without the street.

The art colony could



not be more thrilled to host the event at the old Cannon Beach Elementary School site. To be sure, they could not do it without the City of Cannon Beach, and are so grateful for their support—which begins with the purchase of the Elementary School site with the intention creating a space for community gatherings.

The art colony is also excited to highlight the extremely important indigenous history of the site, which will extend to the event itself with talks and information.

Along with local artists sharing their creations—and perhaps some doing plein air work as well—there will be a slate of musical performances,

including sets from Thistle & Rose, Adams & Costello, Bethany Dugan and more. There will also be preview performances from the Coaster Theatre's two upcoming shows that will debut later this summer.

The art colony recognizes it will be Father's Day and as such they will be grilling. It will be a terrific event to bring your dad to—or, dads, bring the whole family! And the colony will grill so you dad does not have to!

Bring your picnic baskets, blankets, chairs, friends and neighbors.

The event runs from 1-6 p.m., and a schedule of performers will be released soon.

Dream realized: Gazette celebrates its 45th birthday

Justin Lacche
For The Gazette

Forty-five years ago, the Cannon Beach Gazette published its first-ever issue, and in a way so wonderful and metaphorical about the power of community journalism: "A Dream Realized" was the inaugural headline.

Think about how powerful and relevant the first articles written by Gazette founding publisher and editor Don Holden were then and remain today: "Medical clinic effort renewed": Highlighted how local residents felt Cannon Beach should have a medical facility within the city limits. It took some time but thanks to Barbara Schramm and many others, it became "a dream realized". Lives were and remain saved because of it.

"Library building in operation": celebrated local icons Vic Stamm, Jay Schwehr and many others who, after years of saving, organizing and planning, saw the present-day Cannon Beach library open. Another "dream realized" for the community.

Since June 3, 1976, the Cannon Beach Gazette has been championing many "dream realized" moments, as well as, challenging times, complicated issues and all the wonderful nuances that make this community unique. I'd like to think Don Holden would

be proud, and in events that only could be true in community journalism, I found out directly why the Gazette was Holden's "dream realized".

Call it chance. Good fortune. Pure luck. Maybe all of the above: My first day at the Cannon Beach Gazette was the last day for its founder and first editor.

Holden sold the paper in 1998 and I was hired by the new ownership family to be the newspaper's staff reporter. As I walked up the steps to the second floor of the US Bank building on North Hemlock Street, I heard a voice calling behind me, "Hey kid. They won't be back for an hour."

That was my introduction to a local legend.

Holden had stopped by to collect the last payment check. I was an hour early to work, nervous for my first day, and so we both suddenly had time to kill. I introduced myself. Holden did the same, and then said with a smile said, "Well, kid, since it's your first day, I'll buy you lunch...but keep it under 10 bucks. I'm retired now, you know?"

The next hour was one of the greatest local history, community journalism, social responsibility lessons I have had, in my now 46 years on this planet.

Holden shared that the key to community journalism was always writing as

if the events were about the people most important in your life. That way, one wouldn't write simply for sensational headlines to sell papers.

Equally, Holden also said never bury the truth simply to avoid hard topics. The editor reminded me that community journalism isn't a popularity contest and, "if you don't feel lonely once in a while in this business, you aren't going after the real stories in town."

At the end of the hour, Holden graciously picked up the tab, and we walked back to the office. He lit his signature pipe and paused, looking off into the distance.

"Kid, hard as it is to believe -- someday you'll be in my shoes, sharing some perspective to a young reporter like I am right now. Make sure, when you do, you gave your best to this community. In the newspaper business, that's all you really take with you in the end."

In that respect, Don Holden passed on his "dream realized", and I'm one of many very grateful for it.

Justin Lacche and Chris Baker were former staff reporters for the Cannon Beach Gazette during parts of its three-consecutive National Newspaper Association General Excellence award years 2000-2002.

Wildfire

Continued from Page 2

coordinated efforts for the wildfire season, which includes coordinated responses for transportation, mass care, health and medical, sheltering, law enforcement and military support.

The state has also worked with Oregon counties providing mass communication systems to alert the public of emergencies, such as wildfires, and to help coordinate survival efforts. But when questioned by a reporter about the apparent ineffectiveness of such a mass communication system in Jackson County, Phelps acknowledged that no system is perfect.

"These systems rely on humans and mechanical systems," he said. "Every county

needs to take that responsibility seriously and make sure there staff are trained for such systems."

Phelps said every Oregonian can take steps now to reduce the wildfire risks.

"I am asking every Oregonian to plan being a disaster survivor," he said. "Disasters are inevitable but there are things that we can do to reduce our individual risks, our families risks and the risks to our communities."

Using a graphic during the Zoom media briefing, Phelps outlined a plan to be ready.

Reduce Risk

- Prevention
- Prepare Your Home
- Know Before You Go

Prepare

- Have a plan and

practice

- Pack your go-bag
- Know how and where to evacuate

Stay Informed

- Sign up for alerts
- Follow trusted social media accounts
- Community resources

Both Grafe and Ruiz-Temple agreed that the Oregon Public Utility Commission's (PUC) new temporary rules allowing utilities to switch off power during wildfires to protect the public and property are important.

"The power companies are engaging more with the state's coordination system and the decision to turn off power is the responsibility of the power companies," Grafe said.

"I see that (the PUC rules) as a good movement," Ruiz-

Temple said. "Senate Bill 762 speaks specially to the PUC response and how they engage. There needs to be a

process."

Ruiz-Temple said the state has made investments in responses, risk reductions

and resilience, including implementing the governor's wildfire council's recommendations and 2021 legislation.



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