



Welcome Home Special Section

Inside

# CANNON BEACH GAZETTE



Friday, July 4, 2025 | Vol. 49, Issue 7

www.cannonbeachgazette.com



Teams at work on their sandcastles in the afternoon rain.

## Castles in a storm

**Cannon Beach hosts 61st annual Sandcastle Contest**

STAFF REPORT

Competitors and crowds of spectators braved a significant summer storm on June 21, for Cannon Beach's 61st annual Sandcastle Contest.

The event stretched over three days, with a live demonstration on Friday and a 5k race on

See **CASTLES**, Page A3

Members of team Winecastlers doing detail work on their sculpture in the large group division.



## TLT reform push ends in senate committee

**WILL CHAPPELL**  
Gazette Editor

A week after passing through the Oregon House of Representatives, a bill seeking to change the state's transient lodging tax allocation formula reached the end of the line when it was not voted on in the Senate Finance and Revenue Committee on June 24.

The bill was cosponsored by Representative Cyrus Javadi and Senator Suzanne Weber, along with Representative Jules Walters, and Javadi said that he plans to bring a similar piece of legislation in the 2026 short session.

Javadi's attempts to reform the spending restrictions of House Bill 2267 that passed in 2003 and established the current regime for TLT spending were a focus throughout the long session. Javadi and leaders in counties that receive high levels of tourism argued that the current restrictions requiring 70% of funds from the TLT go towards tourism promotion or facilities leave jurisdictions without sufficient revenues to meet the cost of serving visitors, especially as it relates to emergency services.

Initially, Javadi introduced two bills, one proposing a change in the percentage of funds restricted for tourism use from 70% to 50% and the other proposing a change to the definitions of tourism-related spending to add law enforcement and tourism facility maintenance in the allowed expenditures for the restricted funds.

Both of those proposals fizzled and died in the general government committee early in the session, but Javadi continued his quest and in early May, Democratic Representative Jules Walters revived the discussion, dedicating one of her five priority bills to redefining the allowable uses of restricted TLT funds.

See **TLT**, Page A3

## Steeped in Community

### Local Favorites Celebrate 30 Years at Bald Eagle Coffee House

**Laurie and Tom Jiroudek celebrate 30 years of owning the coffee house this month**

**PIERCE BAUGH V**  
for the Gazette

July 9 is a special day for Tom and Laurie Jiroudek. It's when they became the owners of the Bald Eagle Coffee House, though it was called the Espresso Bean when they first became the owners. This year is extra special, marking 30 years of their ownership.

When the coffee shop became available, the Jiroudeks, who wanted to be their own

bosses and had had previous food industry experience from owning a vegetarian restaurant in Salem, thought, "Why not?"

For the first five years, it was called the Espresso Bean, but wanting to get back to the town's roots, the Jiroudeks wanted to take over the name of a previous coffee shop that was popular in the '70s called Bald Eagle. The Jiroudek contacted Bald Eagle's previous owner, who was honored that they wanted to continue the name, and in 2000, the Espresso Bean became Bald Eagle Coffee House.

The Jiroudeks had lived in Cannon Beach for six years before they had the coffee house. Moving from Salem, they felt Cannon Beach would be a great place to raise their children, all of whom have worked at

the coffee shop, and their son, Flynn, is still working with his parents. "They've all learned how to make lattes," Laurie says.

The Bald Eagle Coffee House is open from Wednesday to Sunday, but it's a seven-day-a-week job, with the Jiroudeks buying supplies on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Bald Eagle Coffee House is known for its soups and a customer favorite is the marionberry scones. The coffee shop also has a unique distinction. When the Jiroudeks first became its owners in '95, Starbucks would regularly allow mom-and-pop shops to brew its coffee. Now, Bald Eagle is one of the few coffee shops that still

See **COFFEE**, Page A3

## Buskers in the Park Is Back for Year Five

**Buskers in the Park is making Thursdays special in Cannon Beach this summer season**

**PIERCE BAUGH V**  
for the Gazette

Gordon Lightfoot, Peter, Paul and Mary, Simon and Garfunkel, these are just a few of the musicians that inspired Paul Dueber, who describes himself as a "wannabe guitarist" and has been singing all of his life. His passion for music includes his band Thistle and Rose, but it also includes the creation of Buskers in the Park, which is in its fifth year.

Starting in 2020 as a way to combat the loneliness brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, Buskers in the Park arose to connect people while still adhering to health guidelines for social distancing. City manager Bruce St.

Denis, who is also a guitar player, reached out to Dueber, wanting to find a way to get people outside. Despite all that was happening with the pandemic, the first year of Buskers in the Park was a success.

In its fifth year, the weekly summer event, on Thursday from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the City Park Band Stand, will be serenading the town once more.

This summer's lineup includes local favorites like Floating Glass Balls, Brownsmead Flats and The Horsenecks.

Dueber is glad that Buskers in the Park can support local musicians. "It's \$250, which makes a difference to the bands that are traveling here, because they've got to pack up. They don't have roadies. Most of the guys are doing it themselves, but it helps to offset some of the costs of get-

See **BUSKERS**, Page A3



Manzanita's new city hall on Manzanita Avenue will open in early August.



The building's council chamber features locally sourced and milled wood.

# Move in begins at Manzanita city hall

**WILL CHAPPELL**  
Gazette Editor

Following substantial completion in mid-May, Manzanita's city staff has begun to move into its new home at Underhill Plaza as they prepare to open the new city hall in early August.

Finishing touches are still underway as low-voltage electrical equipment, like internet infrastructure is installed, and staff will spend July settling in and familiarizing themselves with the new facility, a decision City Manager Leila Aman said was made to manage moving costs.

"When people are like, 'why are you closed for five weeks?' It's like, well, because we are small, we don't have a whole army of people who are here doing this stuff, it was just more cost-effective for us to do this," Aman said.

Work began on construction of the new city hall and police station last April after city council decided to finance the \$4.6 million

construction project with a loan from Business Oregon that will be repaid over the next decade at the end of 2023. Crews first demolished the school and Quonset hut that had been on the site last spring, before moving onto construction, pouring the buildings' slabs in the summer and completing framing in the fall.

The new facility will consist of two buildings, with the police department housed separately from the rest of city staff and the public areas of the site in their own building, which is designed to withstand a maximum Cascadia subduction zone earthquake and tsunami and serve as the city's emergency operations center.

The project was substantially completed in the middle of May, when Cove Built LLC, the local contractor who led the project, handing over the keys to the new facility and completed a final punch list of work.

Manzanita Police began their move into the new facility on June 9, and the

rest of staff began moving on June 17. Aman said that she expects it will take until mid-July for the move to be complete, at which point staff will familiarize themselves with the new facility in advance of its public opening.

That does mean that the city's walk-up window for administrative services has been closed since June 19 until the new city hall opens to the public on August 4, with hours from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Staff will still be available throughout the closure by phone and the drop box for payments will be left on Dorcas Avenue.

Plans for a building dedication and public grand opening are still being finalized, but the ceremony will take place on August 2, sometime around midday.

Aman crackled with enthusiasm about the new project, voicing particular pride in the team's ability to come in under budget while still delivering an aesthetically appealing building for the community. Aman is

still working to calculate the final costs of the project but said that she expected the city to recoup around half of the \$325,000 set aside as the owner's contingency after construction costs came in under \$800 per square foot.

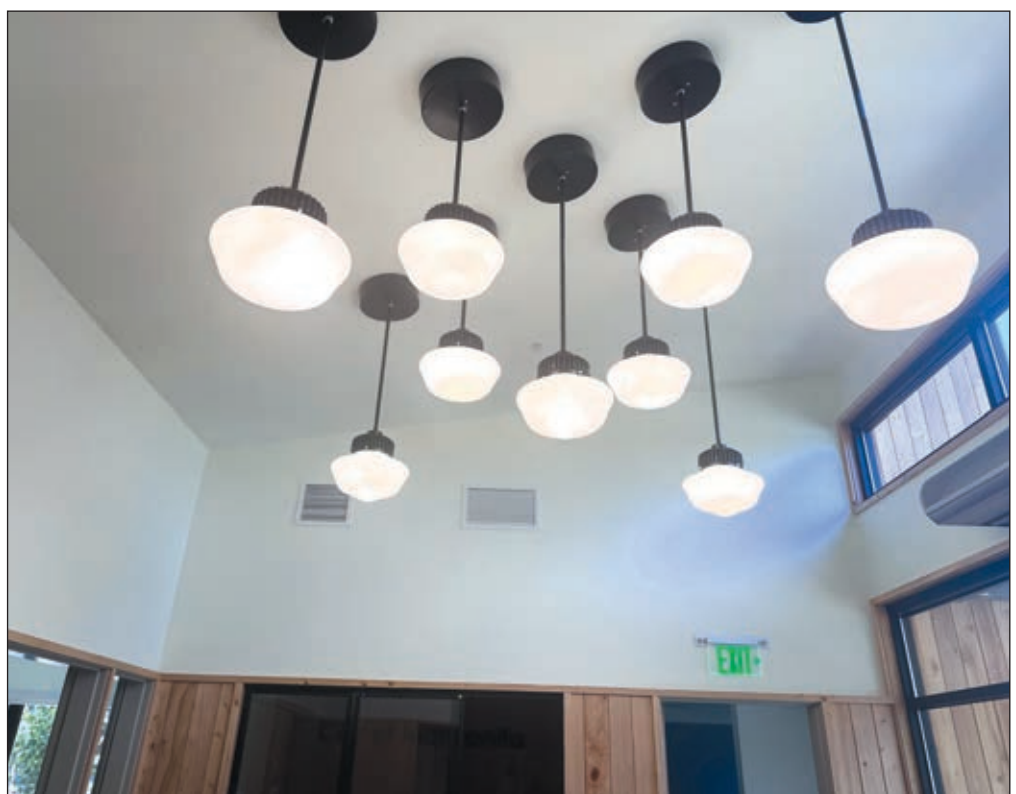
Even with economical construction, the city hall building still includes design flourishes that give it a sense of place, including local

wood throughout the interior and lights from the schoolhouse that used to sit on the site repurposed in the city hall's atrium.

Aman attributed both the strong financial performance and aesthetic appeal of the project to the choice of a local contractor in Cove Built LLC to lead the project, saying that Jason Stegner, Cove Built's owner, and the

rest of the team had been a joy to work with and thrown themselves fully into the work.

"So, there's really just a lot of thought that went into all the little bits and pieces," Aman said, "and I think that's one of the things about having a local team is that they really took a lot of pride in this and they really care about it."



Globe lights from the school building that used to stand on the site hang in the city hall's atrium while repurposed wood from the Quonset hut that served as its gymnasium is used as an accent wall in a staff conference room.

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## Join the search for Elvis at the Coaster Theatre Playhouse

Will the real Elvis Presley please show up? The Coaster Theatre Playhouse kicks off the summer with "Elvis Has Left the Building," a comedy inspired by the actual brief disappearance of the King of Rock 'n' Roll, but with much wackier results.

It's Dec. 20, 1970, and Elvis has vanished. Not even his wily manager, the Colonel, knows his whereabouts. The Colonel is all shook up because he has racked up a secret debt — and with his meal ticket missing, the only way

to pay it off is to find an Elvis impersonator within 24 hours. The Colonel takes desperate measures to replace a man who is irreplaceable, all while keeping a nosy reporter at bay and figuring out what happened to the real Elvis.

"Elvis Has Left the Building," written by V. Cate and Duke Ernsberger, is directed by Katherine Lacaze. It features Leland Fallon as the Colonel, Rhonda Warnack as Trudy, Emily Dante as Roscoe, Tim Schwiager as Candy, Allison Smith as Jill

Tanner and Cyndi Fisher as Understudy for Trudy. The crew includes Sondra Gomez (costumer), Mick Alderman (lighting designer and set builder), Juan Lira (set painter) and Nancy McCarthy (light and sound operator).

"Elvis Has Left the Building" runs from July 5 through Aug. 9, and all performances start at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35 and \$30 and are available online, at the theatre box office, or by calling 503-436-1242. The "pay what you will" show is July 31.

HDS/200



PRC's Befuddled Beach Bums hard at work.

## CASTLES

### Sandcastle Contest

From Page A1

Sunday, but the main show was the competition on Saturday. Professional and amateur sculptors were out in force on the beach in wet and

windy conditions, building whimsical creations ranging from a pug-topped skyscraper to Moai riding individual carts.



A nearly completed design.

## Fatal crash on Highway 101

On Thursday, June 26, 2025, at 1:21 p.m., Oregon State Police responded to a three-vehicle crash on Highway 101, near milepost 27, in Clatsop County.

The preliminary investigation indicated a southbound Toyota Tacoma, operated by Ian Granville Hix (30) of Seaside, crossed into the northbound lane for unknown reasons and struck a northbound Honda CRV, operated by Phyllis J. Harding (76) of San Francisco (CA), head-on. The Honda was pushed to the northbound shoulder while the Toyota continued in the

northbound lane and struck a northbound Nissan Rogue, operated by Charles Paul LeBlanc (57) of Albuquerque (NM), head-on.

The operator of the Toyota (HIX) suffered serious injuries and was transported to an area hospital.

The operator of the Honda (Harding) suffered serious injuries and was transported to an area hospital.

The operator of the Nissan (Charles P. LeBlanc) and passenger, Jennifer Lyria LeBlanc (52) of Albuquerque (NM), suffered serious injuries and were transported

to an area hospital.

Two additional passengers of the Nissan, a female juvenile (15) and a female juvenile (12), were declared deceased as a result of injuries sustained during the crash.

The highway was impacted for approximately seven hours during the on-scene investigation. The cause of the crash is under investigation.

OSP was assisted by the Cannon Beach Police Department, Gearhart Police Department, Cannon Beach Fire, Seaside Fire, and ODOT.

## TLT Reform

From Page A1

From there, Javadi and other legislators convened a series of closed-door meetings in May and early June, bringing representatives from the Oregon Restaurant and Logging Association (ORLA), which opposes changes to the law, local destination management organizations that oversee tourism promotion and development for their areas, county commissioners, mayors and heads of local chambers of commerce together to discuss the proposal.

Javadi said that during those meetings, ORLA's representatives made it clear that while they did not support a change to the spending restrictions, they would prefer a change in the percentage of funds restricted as opposed to a change in how the funds could be spent. Javadi said that this was driven by a desire to give the destination management organizations, which are funded by restricted TLT funds, certainty in their backing.

That request led Javadi and Walters to amend the bill, pivoting from a definitional change to allowing 60% of TLT funds to be spent freely by the counties with the remaining 40% dedicated to tourism promotion or tourism-related facilities.

The bill cleared a hurdle

when it was passed by the house's revenue committee 4-0 on a straight party line vote on June 12 (Javadi is not a member of the revenue committee) and took another step forward when it passed the house on June 19.

However, when the bill arrived in the senate in the fourth week of June, it stalled out at a June 24 Finance and Revenue Committee hearing when Committee Chair Mark Meek declined to hold a vote on the bill.

Despite the result, Javadi

sounded a positive note, highlighting that this was the most extensive conversation that had occurred around the tax since its institution and saying he would try to reform the system again in next year's session.

"We made it further than it has been in twenty years," Javadi said. "I'm not done; I'll be back in the short session."

Javadi said that he plans to start next year's bill in the senate and that he is bullish on his prospects of success.

### MEET TIMBER!

This 3-year-old, 50-pound Shepherd mix is full of life, vitality, and personality. Timber loves going for long walks, playing fetch and splashing in the surf. He's very well-behaved on car rides and enjoys just hanging out once



he's had a chance to burn off some kennel energy. Timber can be a bit dog-reactive, so he's looking for a home where he can be your one-and-only. If you're ready for a loyal sidekick with tons of love to give, Timber may well be the dog you've always dreamed of having.

[https://clatsopcounty.animalshelternet.com/adoption/animal\\_details.cfm?AnimalUID=326928](https://clatsopcounty.animalshelternet.com/adoption/animal_details.cfm?AnimalUID=326928)

Pet meet and greets are by appointment, so if you'd like to meet Timber, call the shelter at 503-861-7387 or stop by the lobby to set up a time. The shelter is open 9:30 to 4:00 Tuesday through Saturday, closed 12:30 to 1:30 for lunch. You can also fill out an application here:

<https://www.clatsopcounty.gov/media/16441>. Be sure to date it next to the signature line (applications are reviewed in the order they are received) and put the name of the animal you are interested in at the top. You can then save the application to your computer and email it to [adopt@ClatsopCounty.gov](mailto:adopt@ClatsopCounty.gov) or print it and deliver it directly to the shelter.

H25377

## COFFEE

From Page A1

has that partnership, which Laurie says has gone well all these years.

Another customer favorite of Bald Eagle is its prices. "We just don't feel like gouging people. People have told us that our prices are way too cheap," Laurie says.

While running a business has its challenges, the rewards more than make up for it. And for the Jiroudeks, the reward is happy customers. For Laurie, she feels her job running a coffee shop also doubles as that of a thera-

pist. Customers often like to tell Laurie about what's happening in their lives. "I think I've become a good listener," Laurie says.

Even though Laurie hinks retirement is unlikely or at least distant, she feels fortunate to have been able to have a career she's passionate about. "My passion is just working with my customers and people," she says.

Ironically, when Laurie graduated from the University of Oregon in 1975, her first job was reporting in Salem, and her first assignment was pure ser-

endipity: "I was assigned to interview all the coffee shops in town."

She hopes everyone will follow their passion.

"Follow your passion. Everybody has a passion, and you sometimes don't know what it is. But when you're in a situation, in a job, and it's not fulfilling you. If it doesn't feel like a passion, then you need to change. And sometimes it will just drop in your lap, and then sometimes you have to search for it. But I think you know in your heart when you're when your passion is fulfilled," Laurie said.

## BUSKERS

From Page A1

ting here," Dueber says. Tips are encouraged. Last year's average for tips was \$520 per show, which makes a difference for many musicians, especially those who travel to Cannon Beach from Portland.

Buskers in the Park being held on Thursdays is also intentional, as Thursdays are typically slow days for musicians.

Just by word of mouth, the average has grown from 80 attendees a show to 150 at the end of August last year.

Dueber is proud to call Buskers in the Park a family event. "They play for an hour and a half and have a great time, and the audiences love them. And we have folks that show up and bring their entire families along with their picnic baskets and blankets and chairs and everything, and just kids and adults are dancing down in front of the bandstand," Dueber says. "It's just a great family event that really attracts a lot of wonderful folks who enjoy good music."

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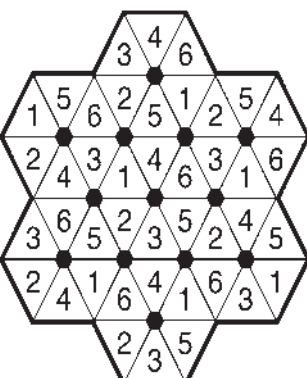
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 answer



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 Answers

GASPUMP ESTATE MESSED  
 ELEANOR SLIMED ENCASE  
 LAVIGNE LEAVING AROUSE  
 JET ROMA WONDERDOWNER  
 REA EMU SSE BLASE  
 GRANDANGER YEE  
 RANTERS LETTERER ASTA  
 ACCEDER WITHERSWRITHE  
 BEER L TREATS COUNT  
 R EL ERA CONNOR  
 YALLI VILLA TORMEMETRO  
 ALIENS ELBE HALE  
 LABAN DOT ELSER BALD  
 STEFANIFANSITE IBERA  
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 NHL STRAITARTIST  
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**CANNON BEACH GAZETTE**

Publish Date	Deadline
Aug. 1	July 28, noon
Sept. 5	Sept. 1, noon
Oct. 3	Sept. 29, noon
Nov. 7	Nov. 3, noon
Dec. 5	Dec. 1, noon

The deadline for advertising, letters to the editor, press releases, obituaries and legal notices is Noon on Monday the week of publication.

Publication dates subject to change.

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- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Allow, Alloy   | 6. Sister, Sitter  |
| 2. Walter, Falter | 7. Lively, Lovely  |
| 3. Phony Phone    | 8. Timer, Tiger    |
| 4. Hutch, Hunch   | 9. Cease, Chase    |
| 5. Bleak, Break   | 10. Maggie, Magpie |

## Super Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 Fuel dispenser  
 8 Lord's home  
 14 Made untidy  
 20 The Beatles' Rigby  
 21 Coated with gunky stuff  
 22 Box up  
 23 "Sk8er Boi" singer making an exit?  
 25 Stir to action  
 26 Go kaput  
 27 Italia's capital  
 28 Very sad tune from the "Sir Duke" singer?  
 30 Stephen of the screen  
 32 Very big bird  
 34 Seattle-to-L.A. dir.  
 35 Jaded  
 36 Hazard encountered by the "Thank U, Next!" singer?  
 42 By birth  
 44 Diatribe deliverers  
 45 Many a stencil user  
 48 Dog in "The Thin Man"  
 52 Consent (to)

53 "Lean on Me" singer makes twisting movements?  
 55 Pub potable  
 56 Unit of petrol  
 57 "@" signs  
 58 Total up  
 59 Cambodian money unit  
 61 Part of QED  
 63 Actor Carroll O—  
 64 "Grease" singer's big country home?  
 69 Subway system named after the "Careless Hands" singer?  
 72 UFO crew  
 73 Czech-German river  
 75 Infirmary-free  
 76 Leah's father, in the Bible  
 77 Ellipsis part  
 79 "That's someone — problem!"  
 81 Lacking hair  
 85 Webpage for devotees of the "Don't Speak" singer?

88 Spain's peninsula  
 90 Morays, e.g.  
 91 Creator of body designs  
 92 Splash, as cooking oil  
 93 Stanley Cup org.  
 94 Person painting a portrait of the "All My Ex's Live in Texas" singer?  
 96 Port in Iraq  
 100 Hawaiian strings, for short  
 103 Binge-watching aid, in brief  
 104 Part of R&R, in brief  
 105 "Toxic" singer dissects a sentence?  
 110 Soothe  
 112 Cut (off)  
 115 California city  
 116 "Hound Dog" singer's noisy pet dogs?  
 119 Totally ruins  
 120 Ornamental tuft on a hat  
 121 Funeral tunes  
 122 Set of nine  
 123 Dior dresses

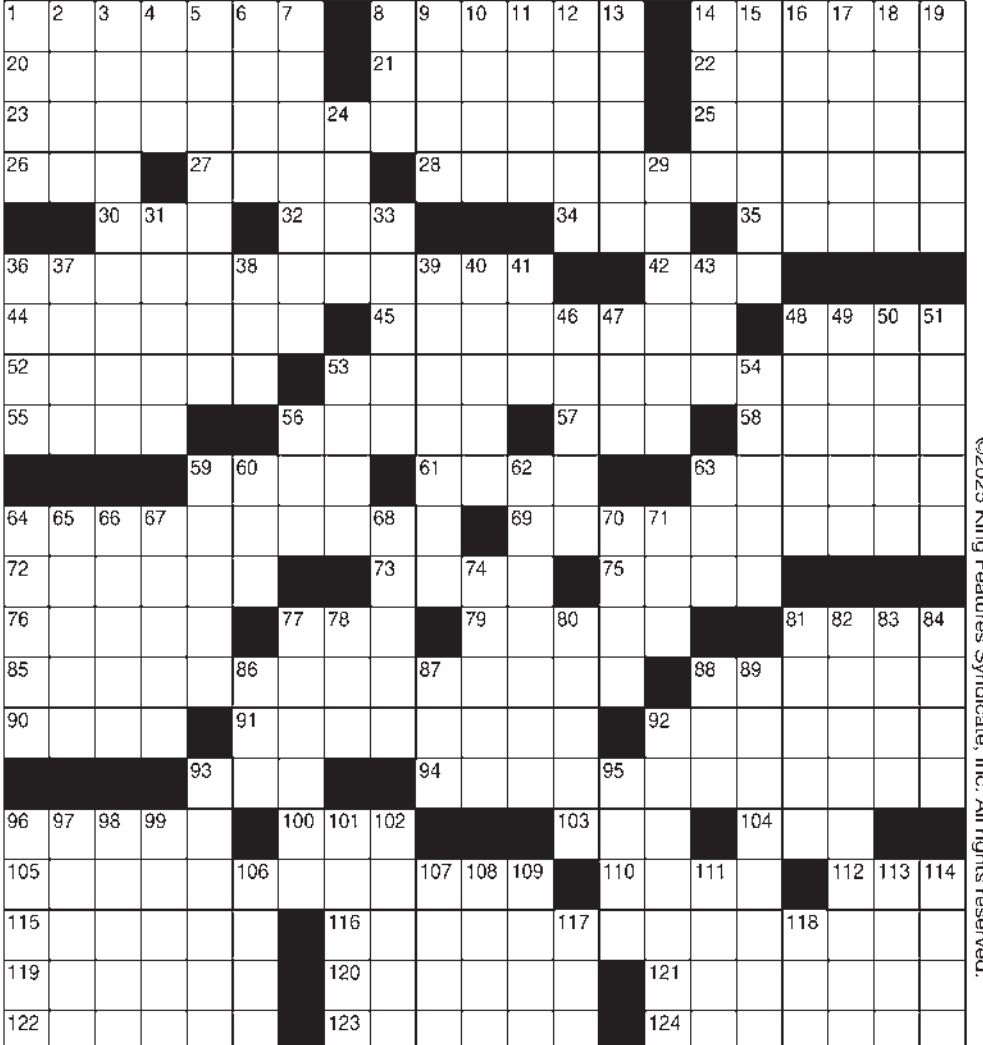
124 Jean Arp or Max Ernst

**DOWN**

1 Neuter, as a horse  
 2 Jai —  
 3 Pay to a fired worker  
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 5 Not marked, as a test  
 6 Not stereo  
 7 People studying to be docs  
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 9 Deli dish  
 10 Brand of 103-Across  
 11 Despot Idi  
 12 Ministers (to)  
 13 Sword parts  
 14 Honey drink  
 15 Cloth  
 16 Angry look  
 17 Sweatbox  
 18 Twisty turns  
 19 John of plows  
 24 Dalai —  
 29 Freshens up  
 31 Key in  
 33 Dark  
 36 Snatch  
 37 Relay, say  
 38 Prior to  
 39 "Dream on!"

40 Rarefied air  
 41 Map no.  
 43 Botch it up  
 46 Poets' Muse  
 47 Q-U linkup  
 48 Make up (for)  
 49 Redirect, as a train  
 50 Choir voice  
 51 Jetsons' dog  
 53 Actor Ferrell  
 54 "— in peace"  
 56 Hawaiian string, of a sort  
 59 Lisa of "Soap Talk"  
 60 ICU tubes  
 62 Painter's studio  
 63 Cartoon pic  
 64 Dijon dance  
 65 Off to — start (behind)  
 66 Insult in print  
 67 Toronto Maple —  
 68 Unleash on  
 70 Syngman of South Korea  
 71 Family VIPs  
 74 Make drunk  
 77 Contact by phone  
 78 Many a time  
 80 Fine fiddle  
 81 Singer Midler

82 Constitution part establishing the executive branch  
 83 Whoppers  
 84 Pub missile  
 86 Final degree  
 87 Refusals  
 88 Hoppy brew, for short  
 89 Drove fast  
 92 Wandered  
 93 C.S. Lewis' fantasy world  
 95 Tony winner Judith  
 96 Back half of a 45  
 97 Chef's cover  
 98 Five plus two  
 99 Lift  
 101 Iota follower  
 102 Flynn of film  
 106 Mail out  
 107 Highway rig  
 108 X Games ailer  
 109 — gin fizz  
 111 Actress Ward  
 113 Rich rocks  
 114 Hushed "Hey!"  
 117 Trio in "mammal"  
 118 Links org.



**ABOUT US**  
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## CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

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- Custom Obituary: You choose the length, the wording of the announcement, and if you want a small photo included -

Cost is \$100 for the first 200 words, \$75 for each additional 200 words.

- 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.

**AT THE LIBRARY**



**Books Old and New, Summer Fun & King David**

By **PHYLLIS BERNT**  
Library Volunteer

The Annual Fourth of July Book Sale is in full swing at the library (131 N. Hemlock). This four-day sale, a Cannon Beach tradition, began Thursday, July 3 at 10 a.m. The sale continues Friday and Saturday, July 4 and 5, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, July 6, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The sale includes thousands of books of all genres and topics, as well as DVDs, music CDs and vinyl records. All items have been priced to sell. Patrons can find special bargains on Sunday, during the ever-popular Bag Sale, when patrons can fill up a bag (provided by the library) for \$8.

The book sale is an important fundraiser for the library; all proceeds are used to pay for operating expenses.

Patrons can contribute to another library fundraiser by buying a ticket for the Cottage Charm and Coastal Calm raffle. The raffle includes a stay for two adults in a cozy Cannon Beach cottage on Saturday, September 13; two tickets to the annual Cottage Tour hosted by the History Center & Museum; a \$200 gift certificate for dinner at The Bistro in Cannon Beach; and a gift basket filled with books and treats.

Tickets are \$20 each; only 250 raffle tickets will be sold. Raffle tickets can be purchased during the Fourth of July Book Sale or through the library webpage (www.cannonbeachlibrary.org). The drawing for the raffle will be on Sunday, July 6. Ticket holders do not need to be present to win.

July is a fun-filled month for children participating in the Summer Reading Program. The Program began June 14 and will continue through August 23. Program participants keep a logbook in which they document their reading activities, collecting prizes as they read and becoming eligible to participate in raffles for gift cards and toy

sets. Children can also enjoy two fun-filled activities. On Saturday, July 19, at 1 p.m. staff members from the Seaside Aquarium will bring an animal touch tank to the library. Children will be able to learn about ocean animals by seeing and touching them. Children of all ages are welcome.

During the month of July, children can also enjoy a Minecraft Scavenger Hunt at the library. If they find all the items in the scavenger hunt, they can select a prize. Registration for the Summer Reading Program is in-person at the library or online through the library website (www.cannonbeachlibrary.org). Children do not have to live locally to participate.

The Cannon Beach Reads Book Club will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 16, to discuss "The Secret Chord," by Australian American novelist and journalist Geraldine Brooks.

This will be a hybrid meeting with participants able to take part in the discussion in person at the library or virtually (contact book club coordinator Joe Bernt, berntj@ohio.edu, for the Zoom link).

Brooks is known for her historical fiction, and for this book she goes far back in time to the Second Iron Age of Israel (1000-586 BCE) to tell

the story of the Biblical King David. The book is narrated by the Prophet Nathan, who is a loyal advisor to David, the vehicle through whom God speaks to David, and the scribe whom David has chosen to write his biography.

Drawing on his discussions with David's mother, brother and wives, Nathan adds his own observations and experiences to draw a picture of a complex, highly flawed, often-violent, selfish man who is nevertheless capable of pleasing God with his poetry and music.

The Old Testament presents several vignettes of David's life: the young shepherd slaying Goliath, the beloved leader uniting the tribes of Israel, the immoral betrayer of Uriah, the reviled despot, and, finally, the father of the wise King Solomon. Brooks adds flesh to these vignettes and expands David's story into areas not included in the biblical narrative.

Through David's story, Brooks shows us that human emotions, flaws and aspirations are timeless, and that there can be many insights, and a great deal of enjoyment, to be had in the re-examination of ancient stories.

Before becoming a novelist, Geraldine Brooks was a foreign correspondent

covering wars and other crises in Africa, the Balkans and the Middle East. As a novelist, her historical novels include "Year of Wonders," "March," "People of the Book," "Caleb's Crossing" and "Horse." Brooks was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in Fiction for "March."

K.C. Nau will lead the discussion on July 16. Coffee and cookies will be provided at the library. New members are always welcome.

Patrons interested in reading about strong women will have four new books to choose from this month. Readers can learn about women pilots in "Spitfires: The American Women Who Flew in the Face of Danger During World War II" by Becky Aikman.

Readers interested in female political leaders will enjoy "A Different Kind of Power: A Memoir" by the former prime minister of New Zealand, Jacinda Ardern, while Civil War buffs may be attracted by "Lincoln's Lady Spymaster: The Untold Story of the Abolitionist Southern Belle Who Helped Win the Civil War" by Gerri Willis.

In "Careless People: A Cautionary Tale of Power, Greed, and Lost Idealism," Sarah Wynn-Williams recounts her eye-opening

experiences working for Facebook. The other two nonfiction titles added in July may not focus on strong women, but they are no less worth reading: "The Front Runner: The Life of Steve Prefontaine" by Brendan O'Meara and "Bird Talk: Hilariously Accurate Ways to Identify Birds by the Sounds They Make" by Becca Rowland.

Eight fiction titles were also added in July: "The Stolen Life of Colette Marceau" by Kristin Harmel, "The Road to Tender Hearts" by Annie Hartnett, "The Names" by Florence Knapp, "The Girls of Good Fortune" by Kristina McMorris, "The Two Lies of Faven Sythe" by Megan E. O'Keefe, "Atmosphere: A Love Story" by Taylor Jenkins Reid, "The Listeners" by Maggie Stiefvater and "So Far Gone" by Jess Walter.

Eight new mysteries are "Don't Forget Me, Little Bessie" by James Lee Burke, "Death at the White Hart" by Chris Chibnall, "King of Ashes" by S.A. Cosby, "Her First Mistake" by Kendra Elliot, "Don't Let Him In" by Lisa Jewell, "The Doorman" by Chris Pavone, "Hidden Nature" by Nora Roberts and "Dark Maestro" by Brendan Slocumb.

**LETTERS**

**Gross Mishandling of Election Reporting in Clatsop County – Immediate Oversight Required**

To the Oregon Elections Division, Oregon State Senators, Representatives, and Clatsop County Commissioners,

I am writing to express profound concern and outrage over the severe mishandling of ballot initiative results during the recent election in Clatsop County, specifically related to Measures 235 and 236.

Measure 235, the citizen-led initiative, and Measure

236, the countermeasure introduced by the City of Cannon Beach, were placed before voters simultaneously. Throughout the election period, all reporting provided to the Oregon Elections Division clearly indicated that Measure 235 was leading. This information was echoed repeatedly in public records, online reporting tools, and even cited in news publications such as The Daily Astorian.

However, during final certification, the Clatsop County Clerk inexplicably reversed the results, certifying Measure 236—the City's countermeasure—as the winner. This reversal was never publicly explained, flagged, or corrected prior to certification. The Clerk has taken zero

responsibility, claiming the reporting error lay with the State of Oregon, despite the fact that her office submitted and certified the results.

This is a gross failure of basic election accountability. This is not about winning or losing—this is about democracy and how this is a prime example of the erosion of public trust in the election system.

Unfortunately, this is not an isolated incident. In the 2021 election, when a highly contested Prepared Food Tax initiative appeared on the Cannon Beach ballot, the Clatsop County Clerk again demonstrated disturbing lapses in judgment:

- The City of Cannon Beach's Public Works Director was given a key to the bal-

lot box and accessed it along with the City Manager under the pretext of "checking for water damage."

- Protocols were clearly not followed. No one was reprimanded.

- Ballot drop sites in Seaside were left unlocked, resulting in ballots being submitted in unauthorized and unsecured boxes—ballots that were ultimately not counted.

This pattern of negligence, lack of transparency, and failure to adhere to election security protocols seriously undermines public trust. If the Clerk truly believes the certified results were accurate and that the reporting discrepancy was due to the State's system, where is the documentation of that? Were any other ballot races or measures impacted

by similar reporting "errors"? What steps are being taken to identify and correct such discrepancies moving forward?

We are left with deeply troubling questions:

- How could an entire county's election office not recognize a complete reversal in reporting until certification?

- Why did the Clerk fail to alert candidates, the public, or the press when the apparent "error" occurred?

- Is the Clatsop County Clerk capable of managing elections in accordance with Oregon statutes and public trust?

It is no wonder voter confidence is eroding. Our community deserves accurate reporting, transparency, and accountability. At a bare minimum, voters expect that certi-

fied election results will match the official returns previously posted and reported. This situation fails that standard in every regard.

We demand:

- A full investigation into how the reporting and certification process failed.

- A review of any other ballot measures or races affected by similar issues.

- Clear and immediate explanation from both the Oregon Elections Division and the Clatsop County Clerk.

- Oversight from the Secretary of State's office to ensure future election integrity in Clatsop County.

Enough is enough. Oregon voters deserve better.

**Deanna Hammond**  
Cannon Beach City Councilor

**NCRD welcomes new executive director**

**WILL CHAPPELL**  
Gazette Editor

Nehalem's North County Recreation District greeted a new executive director in early May, with Justin Smith taking over the role from Barbara McCann.

Smith comes to the North County Recreation District (NCRD) from the Sunset Empire Parks and Recreation District in Seaside, bringing a background in aquatics and youth programming to the role, and said that he is excited for the opening of the district's new pool facility in early July.

"It's going to be huge," Smith said, "I just feel like it's going to bring dollars to this town in particular, dollars to the town of Manzanita and then just a place for the community to play."

Smith was born and raised in a suburb of Sydney, Australia, and first came to the United States in his early 20s to work seasonally at a YMCA summer camp in Potosi, Missouri. There, Smith met his wife, and after a brief stint in Australia, the pair settled in the Kansas City area, where Smith worked as aquatics director for the local YMCA.

By 2015, yearning for a life closer to the water, Smith applied for the aquatics director position with the Sunset Empire in Seaside and made the move to the Oregon Coast.

During his time in Seaside, Smith rose to become director of programs, the second highest position at the district, and especially focused on expanding youth programs. Smith said that one of his proudest accomplishments in Seaside was the district's

purchase of the old middle school building, which was used to add infant and toddler programs and more than double the size of the organization's youth offerings. Another point of pride from his time in Seaside was bringing the Seaside Kids youth sports program under the Sunset Empire's umbrella and taking over coordinating its logistics.

As he worked in Seaside, Smith said that his curiosity had always been piqued by the NCRD, ever since a visit early in his time in Seaside while scouting locations for a surf camp in Oswald West State Park.

"I hear about this old pool in the basement, and back then we came, and we got a tour and everything; I just fell in love with this place," Smith said. "I was like, oh, this is awesome."

When the job opened last year, Smith said that he decided to throw his hat in the ring, and after his selection and a pre-planned trip to Australia, his first in a decade, Smith took over as executive director on May 8.

Smith arrives at an exciting time for the district, as its pool facility nears completion, with water going into the pools in the week before Memorial Day and staff training being organized for June. Smith said that he expects a soft opening will precede an official grand opening ceremony sometime in early July and that he plans to spend much of his time in the next year focused on the pool's operations, including by seeking residents' input through a survey this summer.

"I'd really like to just get this pool open, find a way to get a survey out there for the summer, maybe three months, see how much feedback we can get, re-shift gears and then focus on that space," Smith said.

Smith said that beyond determining hours and coordinating programs, he expects that the addition of new parking near the aquatics center may lead to a shift in where people enter the district, which could necessitate a change in reception staffing.

Beyond that, Smith

said that he hopes to work with the Neah-Kah-Nie School District to expand NCRD's after school program for Nehalem Elementary students, potentially by hosting it at the school, and to take advantage of opportunities opened by the new pool to expand NCRD's water safety training for students.

"I think there's a way we can change that too and expand it, but it's just going to come down to what does the school district want to see in that program," Smith said.



Justin Smith

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CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

**Weekly SUDOKU**

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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**SNOWFLAKES**  
by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦♦**

♦ Easy ♦♦ Medium ♦♦♦ Difficult

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# OBITUARY

**Robert Henry Tarr, Jr.  
Bob Tarr**  
April 10, 1946 - May 23, 2025



Bob Tarr (Robert Henry Tarr, Jr.) died at the age of 79 on May 23, 2025, surrounded by family and friends in his home in Arch Cape.

Bob was predeceased by his wife Jan and his brother Richard, and is survived by four siblings and their spouses: Susan Tarr Lange (Arthur), Paul Tarr (Julie), Tom Tarr (Kristy), and Leila Tarr (Steve Estes).

He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews; stepchildren, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; math students and colleagues; and countless

friends in the coastal area and beyond.

Bob was a revered math teacher on the north coast

for many years. The loves of his life were his beloved wife Jan, his magnificent Bernese Mountain Dogs, and teaching math to young people.

"I had a wonderful life -- I got to live in Arch Cape over half my life, be married to Jan for 35 years, and teach kids math!"

Bob was a longtime core member of St. Catherine's Episcopal Church in Manzanita, where well-behaved dogs are always welcome.

Memorial services will be held at St. Catherine's on July 19 at 4 PM, followed by a reception and a beach fire.

# Bonamici holds Seaside town hall

**WILL CHAPPELL**  
Gazette Editor

United States Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici hosted a constituent townhall at Seaside High School on June 20, with around 100 members of the public attending.

At the meeting, Bonamici fielded questions from residents concerned about various policies of President Donald Trump's administration and said that she and fellow democrats would fight those policies and work to turn the electoral tide in the 2026 midterm elections.

"We're going to work really hard to send the message that we care about the people we represent," Bonamici said. "Hopefully, things will turn around next year, but in the meantime, we're still going to fight. We're going to offer amendments; we're going to call them out on the border and amplify those voices and then come to the community and listen to people here."

After an introduction from Clatsop County Commissioner Mark Kujala, Bonamici started the town hall by briefly addressing the crowd, telling them that she had received more calls this year than in any other since 2012 when she arrived in Washington. Bonamici encouraged constituents to keep on calling and writing her office so they could track public sentiment.

Bonamici then welcomed questions from her constituents, who touched on a wide range of subjects.

In response to questions, Bonamici said that she was unhappy with the deployment of United States Marines to Los Angeles to respond to protests and took Republicans to task over proposed cuts to Medicaid in the spending bill being advanced by the party.

Another questioner raised concerns about graft and corruption, and Bonamici said that she was very concerned by activities like Trump's creation



of a cryptocurrency and potential acceptance of an airplane from the Qatari government. "It's completely unacceptable that somebody in that position can benefit like that and his family as well, so it is extremely concerning," Bonamici said.

Bonamici also criticized Trump's tariffs, which she said were creating economic uncertainty, cuts to the United States Agency for International Development, which she said was critical to American soft power, and potential military intervention in Iran (the town hall occurred the day before Trump ordered airstrikes against Iranian nuclear facilities).

Bonamici's strongest criticism was reserved for Trump's campaign of mass deportation, which is being led by Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Bonamici took the agency to task over its officers obscuring their identities with masks and detaining people without identifying themselves, as well as their decision to target churches, court hearings and hospitals for sweeps.

"ICE should not be in schools, ICE should not be in churches or places of worship, ICE should not be in hospitals," Bonamici said. "We cannot have masked people with no ID terrorizing Americans and immigrants to America."

Several commenters also asked about

the Democratic Party's strategy in responding to Trump and improving electoral performance.

Bonamici defended the party's work during President Joe Biden's administration, saying that while the messaging had been bad, lawmakers had passed important legislation like the CHIPS and Science Act, the American Rescue Plan and the bipartisan-supported Investment and Jobs Act. "We did a lot," Bonamici said, "but people weren't feeling it and seeing it and knowing about it."

Encouraging constituents to call in with concerns or when they saw issues arise or needed help, Bonamici said that she and fellow Democrats would fight the administration by offering amendments to bills and asking administration officials tough questions to hold them accountable.

"When you're seeing things, when you're hearing things, please speak up and contact my office, the senators' offices, so we know, and we can follow up on it," Bonamici said. "And there are many of us working to try to make those changes."

Several event attendees were unsatisfied with Bonamici's answers about Democrats' response and heckled her repeatedly, saying that Republicans were not playing by the rules while Democrats were.

# Ensuring Accuracy: Clatsop County Confirms Correct Ballot Outcomes in Cannon Beach

Clatsop County Elections has confirmed that an administrative error by the Oregon Elections Division mistakenly reversed the unofficial election results for two Cannon Beach charter amendment measures: Measure 04-235 and Measure 04-236.

The issue was discovered on Monday, June 16, during the County's official election certification process. The vote counts were not affected, and the certified results are correct. The will of the voters remains unchanged.

According to the Oregon Secretary of State's Office, the reversal occurred due to a manual data entry error. Two internal tracking numbers used for ballot measures were entered incorrectly, causing the results for the two measures to be mislabeled on the state's elections website.

## What Are the Measures?

• **Measure 04-235:** City of Cannon Beach Charter Amendment Requiring Voter Approval to Incur Debt

This citizen-initiated measure proposed requiring a public vote for any nonemergency city debt exceeding 50% of the previous year's government activity revenues.

• **Measure 04-236:** City of Cannon Beach Charter Amendment Clarifying Voter Approval for Issuance of Debt

Introduced by the city, this measure aimed to clarify existing charter language regarding voter approval for issuing debt.

## What Happened?

While the vote totals were accurate, the results on the SOS website were incorrectly labeled online. Measure 04-235 was shown as 04-236 and vice versa. The discrepancy was identified before certification as part of Clatsop County's routine election verification procedures and promptly reported to the state.

Clatsop County Clerk Tracie Krevanko emphasized the reliability of the County's local reporting system.

"The results were correctly posted from Clatsop County Elections on

election night," Krevanko said. "It was during our thorough certification process that we noticed the discrepancy between our results and how they appeared on the state's website. That's exactly why these checks and balances are in place—to catch and correct any administrative issues before results are finalized."

The Oregon Elections Division has corrected the online listings for the two measures, and a full review confirmed that no other unofficial election results were impacted by similar errors.

"The Secretary of State's office takes full responsibility for the error that caused the results for two ballot measures in Cannon Beach to be flipped in the unofficial election night reporting website. We conducted a full review of the unofficial results for every other race in the state and confirmed this was an isolated incident. We are adding additional controls to prevent errors like this from happening again because we know Oregonians are counting on us to get this right," said Deputy Oregon Secretary of State Michael Kaplan.

## Key Points:

- Vote counts were not affected.
- Certified election results accurately reflect voter intent.
- Measure 04-235 failed; Measure 04-236 passed.
- The discrepancy involved labeling only, not vote totals.
- Additional safeguards are now in place to prevent similar issues.

Clatsop County voters with questions are encouraged to contact the County Clerk at (503) 325-8511 or visit [www.clatsopcounty.gov/elections](http://www.clatsopcounty.gov/elections).

# Call for Recount for City of Cannon Beach Charter Amendment Measures

The Clatsop County Clerk and Elections Office have been notified by the Oregon Secretary of State's Elections Division that a demand for a recount of votes has been filed by Kathryn Bestgen for the May 20, 2025 election.

The recount specifically

concerns two charter amendment measures voted on by residents of Cannon Beach.

• Measure 04-235, requiring voter approval to incur debt.

• Measure 04-236, clarifying voter approval for issuance of debt.

The recount will begin

at 9 a.m. on July 10, 2025 at the Judge Guy Boyington Building, 857 Commercial Street in Astoria.

Clatsop County voters with questions are encouraged to contact the County Clerk at 503-325-8511 or visit [www.clatsopcounty.gov/elections](http://www.clatsopcounty.gov/elections).

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By: rj johnson  
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DOLACE  
LYARO  
♥ERDA  
CAMISO  
URC  
ALRO  
♥EMDAR  
DLI  
♥TERIDO  
♥TELCA  
♥YERE

Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. **HAGNEC** becomes **CHANGE**). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥**RATHE** becomes **HATER** or **EARTH** or **HEART**). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

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# Clatsop Animal Assistance Gains an Executive Director

**Lily Tollefsen becomes the shelter's executive director**

**PIERCE BAUGH V**  
for the Gazette

To many, Zeus is the chief deity of the ancient Greek gods, the god of sky and thunder. To Lily Tollefsen, the new director of Clatsop Animal Assistance, it's her four-legged canine friend whom she adopted from CAA over a year ago.

Zeus has been one of the many joys Tollefsen has experienced during her two years of volunteering with CAA. "The best part of my week is just spending some time in the company of our little furry friends," said Tollefsen of her volunteering with the organization.

In 2022, after retiring from being restaurateurs in

Portland, Tollefsen and her husband moved to Astoria. Seeking a way to meet people, Tollefsen began volunteering with CAA, and soon she was hooked.

Maryann Sinkler isn't new to volunteering with animal shelters. Having a lifelong passion with animals that started with a childhood filled with pets such as dogs, cats, mice, rabbits and hamsters, Sinkler developed a love for animals at a young age, which has led to 30 years of volunteering with animal shelters. "Animals can't speak for themselves, so they're really reliant upon us to advocate for them," says Sinkler.

Having been involved with CAA, Sinkler was happy to see Tollefsen step into the role of CAA's executive director.

Tollefsen is amazed by how CAA is run. CAA is an independent and non-profit

organization that works with the shelter in Warrenton. CAA supports the shelter by helping to cover the cost of veterinary care that isn't covered in the shelter's budget, including paying a portion of spay/neuter fees for animals adopted from the shelter; helps pay for supplies like cat litter, and covers grooming costs that aren't in the shelter's budget; supports the shelter's adoption program by sponsoring promotional ads and holding adoptions events; helps sheltered animals find foster homes, and is committed to reducing pet overpopulation.

When speaking of CAA's operation, Tollefsen describes it as a "miracle". With 120 active volunteers and a passionate board, CAA has been able to go above and beyond in its commitment to animals. "They'll come at nine in the morning and stay till

four at night, just volunteering for the organization and to serve animals," Tollefsen says of CAA volunteers' commitment.

During her time with CAA, Tollefsen has seen unlikely connections form. A family can have an idea of what type of animals will fit into the family, only to be enamored by a dog or cat they wouldn't have imagined being the right fit.

It's no surprise that Tollefsen has witnessed her share of heartwarming stories, but one does stand out to her. A scared stray arrived at the shelter but didn't stay for long. Though rare, this dog managed to escape the shelter and was lost. The dog ended up on the doorstep of a family who fell in love with her and decided to make her a part of their family and adopted her through the shelter. "She

just found her family," says Tollefsen. Though most animals with CAA don't usually take such initiative.

To support CAA, donations are always welcome, but there are always volunteer opportunities, such as walking dogs. But one of the most impactful ways to help is by fostering animals.

The shelter can only accommodate so many animals, relying on others to step in and provide a temporary home. CAA helps with the costs that come with the stay. CAA will visit a home to make sure it's the right fit for a shelter animal, and that if there are other animals, they will coexist well with their temporary roommate.

"Our fosters are like little fairies. They are magic. And so, without them, we wouldn't really be able to sustain with the amount of space that we have," said

Tollefsen.

And Tollefsen is happy with foster "fails." And by "fails," she means that a family will foster an animal only to fall in love with it and make it a permanent part of the family.

But some may ask, "Why animals?" Tollefsen has witnessed the joy and relief that caring for an animal can bring, both for the animal and the caretaker. Sinkler has been asked this question during her 30 years of volunteering with animals. Her reply speaks to the need we all have to contribute in a way that is authentic to who we are: "Fill in the blank on whatever the social need is out there, and there's a lot of them, but I think that if you're passionate about something and you feel a strong connection to it, then that's the right one for you."

# Tsunami 101 roadshow stops in Tillamook County

**WILL CHAPPELL**  
Gazette Editor

Oregon's Department of Emergency Management hosted the first of a series of Tsunami 101 presentations at the Pine Grove Community House in Manzanita on June 4, drawing a full house.

At the presentation, which was repeated later in the day in Tillamook, experts from Oregon's Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI), the National Weather Service (NWS) and the Oregon Department of Emergency Management discussed the tsunami situation in Oregon and how residents can be prepared and will be alerted if one occurs.

Laura Gabel, a geologist with DOGAMI based in Newport, kicked off the presentations by discussing the science behind tsunamis.

Gabel said that tsunamis are generated in areas called subduction zones where tectonic plates are pushing against each other and that the entire Pacific Basin is ringed by these zones, each of which can generate tsunamis.

Oregon's local subduction zone is known as the Cascadia Subduction Zone. It extends from northern Cal-

ifornia to Vancouver Island and runs roughly parallel to the Oregon's entire coastline between 60 and 70 miles offshore.

The zone exists where the Juan de Fuca plate is slowly slipping underneath the North American Plate, pulling the North American Plate downwards at a rate of around one and a half inches a year. The pressure created by this subduction builds up in a stuck or locked zone and will eventually be released when the North American Plate springs back up, causing an earthquake and tsunami.

Gabel explained that while Oregon could be affected by tsunamis generated elsewhere around the Pacific, these distant tsunamis would take hours to arrive and would be much less impactful and easier to prepare for than a local tsunami generated by the Cascadia Subduction Zone.

The good news is that the Cascadia Zone is by far the least active in the ring of fire, Gabel said, leading scientists to discover it relatively recently, with its existence first theorized in the 1980s.

Initially, researchers believed the zone might be dormant but thanks to research by paleo seismologists in the

1990s, it was discovered that the zone is still active.

Those same paleo seismologists were eventually able to create a record of tsunamis caused by the subduction zone dating back 10,000 years.

In that period, the zone has experienced 19 full-margin ruptures resulting in magnitude 9.0 or greater quakes, and 22 partial ruptures causing less powerful quakes. Research showed quakes have been separated by 100 to 1,100 years and that in the last 3,000 years, the average time between them has been 510-540 years.

The last full margin earthquake and tsunami occurred on January 26, 1700, with the tsunami hitting Oregon beaches around 9 p.m., according to Gabel, who said that the information had been determined by looking at tsunami records in Japan, where the waves had been recorded with no related earthquake.

Given the 325 years that have elapsed since the last rupture, Gabel said that the latest projections estimate that there is a 16-22% chance of a full-margin rupture in the next 50 years and a 37-43% chance of a partial-margin

rupture in southern Oregon or northern California.

Gabel then discussed the experience of going through an earthquake and tsunami, explaining that the ground would shake for up to five minutes in a full-margin rupture, causing damage to infrastructure, ground liquefaction during the shaking and landslides.

If the shaking in a quake lasts longer than 30 seconds, Gabel said that it is safe to assume that a tsunami has been generated, and that residents in Manzanita would have about 20 minutes from the beginning of a quake to the arrival of a wave, with residents on the south coast having less time, due to their closer proximity to the fault.

Gabel said that the initial wave could be as high as 50 to 60 feet at the beach in a worst-case scenario and inundate areas up to 100 feet above sea level, depending on an area's topography. Gabel said that a quake could generate multiple waves, which would arrive at the shore at 30-to-60-minute intervals, and that impacts could last for 12-24 hours, making it important for residents to check for an all clear with authorities.

Adam Schaaf from the

NWS then spoke about his organization's alert efforts in the event of a tsunami, which are coordinated with the National Tsunami Warning Center in Palmer, Alaska.

The center, which monitors quakes around the Pacific, works with the United States Geological Survey to evaluate those quakes and determine the risk of tsunamis to warn impacted areas.

Schaaf said that in the event of local quakes, the NWS would immediately put out a warning before analysis is complete but that for distant quakes, analysis would precede communication.

Analyzing data preliminarily takes around five minutes, according to Schaaf, after which the warning center and NWS decide whether to issue a tsunami watch, advisory or warning. Watches are reserved for distant quakes, while advisories and warnings are used for local events, depending on the situation.

NWS's primary means of communication are through weather radios, but in the event of a tsunami, the warning center will send alerts to every phone in impacted counties on the coast.

After the initial evaluation and warnings, the center will

monitor data transmitted by a network of deep ocean assessment and reporting of tsunamis buoys, which measure wave action, and update warnings or advisories as needed.

Once the potential for further wave activity has subsided, the warning center will send an all clear, at which point warnings will be canceled, though Schaaf cautioned that did not mean that danger was over, as dangerous currents would still be present in local waters.

Following Schaaf's presentation, Althea Rizzo, Local Geological Hazards Program Coordinator at the Oregon Department of Emergency Management discussed the importance of emergency preparation in the face of disasters.

Rizzo discussed the need for go bags containing food, water, medicine and other supplies, which she said residents should have in their homes and cars. Rizzo said that these bags should contain supplies for three days, with people stocked up for two weeks at home.

Rizzo also said that residents should look into seismically retrofitting their houses, which she said was surprisingly affordable and could help a structure survive an earthquake.

# White Bird Gallery summer shows

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## Featured Artists

- Hazel Glass: paper cut strata art
- Jacqueline Hurlbert: mixed media sculpture
- Randall David Tipton: new paintings
- Dave & Boni Deal: raku fired ceramic
- Robin & John Gu-maelius: ceramic & metal sculpture

We greatly appreciate your support of the arts and continued interest in our gallery. Wishing everyone safe travels this summer! We hope to see you soon in Cannon Beach.



Christopher Mathie "Nautical Twilight" acrylic on canvas, 36" x 36"



Jacqueline Hurlbert "New Urban Wilderness" sculpture



Randall David Tipton "Edge of the Forest" oil, 24" x 18"

# ODF taking to the sky for forest health review

**JEREMY C. RUARK**  
Country Media, Inc.

If you look up this month and see a slow-flying plane crisscrossing the skies over Oregon it's likely just researchers looking for signs of damage in Oregon forests from insect pests and other threats.

The Pacific Northwest Aerial Detection Survey of Oregon's forests has been conducted by the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) and the USDA Forest Service (USDAFS) since the 1940s, except during the 2020 pandemic. It is the longest continuous annual survey of its kind in the United States.

To complete the survey, airborne researchers take off in fixed-wing aircraft with one on each side of the plane. They use laptops to record where trees appear to be in trouble. Survey flights typically fly between 1,500

to 2,500 feet above ground level, following a systematic grid four miles apart and traveling at 90 to 140 miles an hour, according to ODF Forest Entomologist Christine Buhl.

"Oregon has about 30 million acres of forest so flying in a grid pattern over it allows us to find problems even in remote areas hard to reach by vehicle or on foot," Buhl said. "For several years this survey has identified a trend in increasing tree deaths as a result of drought stress and subsequent opportunistic beetle attack, which finishes off these stressed trees."

Trees that are most stressed are those that are less drought-tolerant or have spread into fringe habitat and don't have time to adapt to the rapidly changing conditions, according to Buhl.

"Beetles might be the immediate cause of a tree's

death but the underlying cause is often drought," she added.

Other causes of trees being injured or killed can also be viewed from the air, such as damage from storms and wildfires.

Last year's report showed drought, insect pests, and tree diseases continue to be the biggest threats to the state's trees. That report is available at <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/forest-benefits/documents/forest-health-highlights.pdf>.

"Best management practices are to plant the right tree species and seed zone in the right place for projected climate and keep stocking density to a level that can be supported during drought," Buhl said.

Due to persistent dry conditions, she said she expects the 2025 survey to see more of the same trends in higher tree deaths in Oregon's driest

areas, such as in southwest Oregon and east of the Cascades.

Buhl emphasized the importance of on-the-ground collaborators to help round out the full picture of forest

health in Oregon.

"In addition to information ODF and the USDA Forest Service gather, we rely on Oregon State University Forestry Extension staff from across the state,

and collaborate with other natural resource agencies, universities, public and private forest landowners, and members of the public to gather information on the ground," she said.

## Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

- |                      |             |                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|
| 1. Give permission   | — — — — W   | Metallic mixture     | — — — — Y   |
| 2. Actor Matthau     | W — — — —   | Stammer              | F — — — —   |
| 3. Fake              | — — — — Y   | Use one's cell       | — — — — E   |
| 4. Rabbit enclosure  | — — T — —   | Premonition          | — — N — —   |
| 5. Dismal            | — L — — —   | Snap into            | — R — — —   |
| 6. Female sibling    | — — S — — — | Child caregiver      | — — T — — — |
| 7. Perky             | — I — — — — | Attractive           | — O — — — — |
| 8. Stove dial        | — — M — — — | Shere Khan, e.g.     | — — G — —   |
| 9. Come to an end    | — E — — —   | Pursue               | — H — — —   |
| 10. Homer's youngest | — — — G — — | Black and white crow | — — — P — — |



COURTESY PHOTO FROM THE ODF

A helicopter maneuvers over the area preparing to drop water during the wildfire training.



COURTESY PHOTO FROM THE ODF

The wildfire fire crew assembles for a briefing conducted at the training near Springfield.

# Preparing on the ground and in the air for Oregon's wildfires

**JEREMY C. RUYARK**  
Country Media, Inc.

Preparing crews for the summer and fall Oregon wildfire season has been ongoing for the past several weeks.

The rugged training has been on the ground and in the air.

The Oregon Department of Forestry's (ODF) South Cascade District conducted an introduction to aerial firefighting for ground firefighters with a training component in the field on Weyerhaeuser's property near Springfield, May 29.

"This training gives our boots on the ground the opportunity to meet the pilots, become familiar with working with aircraft, see what the capabilities are, and get practical experience in air-to-ground communications," ODF Public Affairs Officer Jessica Neujahr said. "The biggest benefit of this training is getting ground trainees a chance to work one-on-one with aircraft outside of an actual fire. In addition

to meeting the pilots and training with live aircraft outside of a fire, firefighters will have a chance for feedback and questions from pilots during an after-action review."

**THE TRAINING**  
Two Type 3 helicopters from Weyerhaeuser were to be used for the training with approximately 20 ground trainees. The aircraft practiced bucket drops with the ground firefighters practicing communication with the pilots. At the end of the training, pilots participated with the ground firefighters in the after-action review of the events.

The training is designed to demonstrate the coordination and cooperation between the ODF and its cooperating agencies, and to get the firefighters familiar with their resources through the opportunity to practice a non-emergency response to be better prepared, according to ODF Wildland Fire Supervisor Isaak Post.

Post said battling wild-

fires can be physically and mentally draining and overall, very challenging.

"There are many long days, the elements, like heat, and terrain is often very steep, and with the stress, it magnitudes the situation you are in," Post said. "That cumulative buildup of long hours, high stress, high responsibility, and being exposed to the wildfire environment is probably what contributes to the physical and mental fatigue."

The ODF is using new technologies to help protect communities during this summer and fall wildfire season.

"We rely heavily on our detection cameras," Post said, adding that the cameras are positioned at high elevated sites, such as mountain tops in the timbered areas. "They give us the ability to detect smokes (beginning wildfires) and that gets us into an area quickly after detections, so that we can take quick action on the smokes."

The ODF also uses light-

ning detection systems to pinpoint the exact location of a lightning-caused wildfire.

"That detection helps us find the fires and gain access quickly and efficiently after the storms," he said.

Post is hopeful that May 29 training helps the firefighters build a sense of confidence as they prepare for the upcoming wildfire season.

"The aviation water bucket drops in real-time at this training is very valuable and it also gives us the opportunity to better coordinate work with our pilots," Post said.

## WILDFIRE FORECAST

Neujahr said the agency expects a "pretty active" wildfire season likely beginning in July.

"It will likely be pretty hot. Pretty dry," she said. "And with that we really need to stress fire prevention with the public and make sure everybody is

aware, not conducting fire hazards, and that they are checking their local fire restrictions."

## BE READY

Post is urging people who live in Oregon's rural areas, to be prepared for the wildfire season.

"Have a plan in the event of an emergency," Post said. "Know where you are going to go and what you are going to take at a moment's notice. Pay attention to the rules and regulations during the regulated closures. Watch the weather."

According to the Oregon Emergency Management Wildfire Response and Recovery website, residents and visitors should visit their county emergency management website. Follow local emergency services on social media. Have a battery-powered AM/FM emergency radio. Create community by talking to your neighbors

about emergency plans. Exchange contact information and ask for help if you need it or offer help if you can provide it during an emergency.

The state site echo's Post's have an emergency plan recommendation.

"Identify evacuation routes from home, work or school. Establish a Family Communication Plan that designates an out-of-area contact, a family meeting place outside of the hazard area, and how you'll contact each other if you are separated during an emergency," the site urges. "Discuss the plan with your household, loved ones, friends and neighbors. Plan for pets and large animals such as horses and other livestock. Practice the elements of the plan so you'll be ready when disaster strikes."

For more preparedness information and to find out what fire regulations may be in effect in your area, contact your local fire department or fire district.

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