

Family Owned Businesses Special Section

Inside

# CANNON BEACH AZE TENSOR



Friday, December 5, 2025 | Vol. 49, Issue 12

www.cannonbeachgazette.com



# A sunny weekend for Stormy Weather

**STAFF REPORT** 

Beautiful weather drew throngs of visitors to Cannon Beach in the first weekend of November for the 38th Stormy Weather Arts Festival.

Across three days, more than 50 events took place at more than a dozen participating galleries across the city, as live music, artists' talks and kids' activities

See STORMY WEATHER



#### Haystack **Holidays bring** a month of light, tradition, and coastal cheer to **Cannon Beach**

PIERCE BAUGH V for the Gazette

Each winter, Cannon Beach leans fully into the holiday spirit, transforming into a coastal town lit by tradition, community gatherings, and festive creativity. Haystack Holidays a monthlong celebration stretching from late November into December brings together longtime locals, visitors, artists, businesses and families for events that feel uniquely Cannon Beach.

The season opens at the Coaster Theatre Playhouse, where A Carol for Tiny Tim runs November 21-December 21. A sequel to Dickens's classic, the production revisits Scrooge 15 years after his transformation, only to find that it's Tiny Tim — now grown and spoiled - who needs intervention. Using his childhood infirmity to gain sympathy and money, Tim has lost his way. Jacob Marley assembles the Spirits of Christmas Past, Present, and Future for one more life-altering lesson. Warm and heartfelt, the show continues the theatre's tradition of anchoring the holiday season. Details are available at coastertheatre.com or by calling 503-436-1242.

Thanksgiving weekend welcomed the annual Wreath Making Workshops at Steidel Community Hall.

See HAYSTACK, Page A3

# Council approves reappraisal of Haystack Hill property

Gazette Editor

Cannon Beach city council approved funding for a repeat appraisal for a property on Haystack Hill owned by the Holland Family Trust at their meeting on November 4, to facilitate that property's donation to the city.

The move comes after an appraisal earlier this year returned a lower value than two in previous years and threatened to derail plans for the donation.

The seven-member Holland Family Trust owns the Haystack Hill property and has been working with the city and Oregon Coast Alliance (ORCA) to coordinate the property's donation to the city to serve as a nature reserve. ORCA is working to raise funds to support the purchase and will then donate the property to the city.

However, that plan hit a snag when a property appraisal conducted earlier this year returned an estimated value of just \$2 million, less than half the value assigned to the property in appraisals in 2009 and 2017, which both estimated the property's value at \$4.8 mil-

That represented a problem for the original plan, as the trust has entered a sale agreement with ORCA for \$4.8 million, and a representative from the association

said that it would be challenging to raise money for a purchase at more than twice the appraised

The ORCA representative said that members of the trust believed the appraised value had come in so low because a development feasibility study had indicated that only four lots on the property could be built upon and because the appraiser was from the Portland area and unfamiliar with luxury coastal properties. The ORCA representative said that the trust hoped the city would find a new appraiser more familiar with the area and who would involve its members in the appraisal process.

While the trust could accept a lower sales price, it is not obligated to, according to the ORCA representative, who also said that time was of the essence, as trust members need to know if there is a reasonable shot of the deal moving forward by next May.

City Manager Bruce St. Denis explained that while it was unusual for the city to pay for the appraisal of a property, it had done so for the earlier appraisal this year, as well as the one in 2009, because of the upside of the property's potential donation. St. Denis said that the \$32,000 to pay for the appraisal was available in the general fund, and councilors approved the expenditure.

## Council set to seek Necus designer

WILL CHAPPELL Gazette Editor

Following presentations from City Councilors Gary Hayes and

Erik Ostrander on the future of the Cannon Beach Elementary School site in October, council discussed next steps at a meeting on November 13.

Councilors agreed that it was time to prepare a request for proposals from experts in park design to create a detailed plan for the space and that the city should use a construction manager general contractor model on the project.

City Manager Bruce St. Denis began the meeting by discussing council's options for next steps on the project, after council reached a consensus last month that given residents' concerns over costs and the elementary school property's location in the tsunami inundation zone, the site would be best suited for a park.

St. Denis said that the next step was for councilors to decide on whether they would use a hard date or construction manager general contractor (CMGC) approach on the project, explaining that a hard date approach would entail developing a set of plans to solicit bids for construction, while a CMGC would work with the project's architect to develop plans and manage construction for a set fee. St. Denis said that in his experience, it took eight to 12 weeks to find a CMGC and put together a project team, and that he

recommended that approach for its Councilor Lisa Kerr interjected that she felt moving forward with assembling a team was premature because she did not feel there was a consensus among community

members in support of turning

the school into a park. Kerr said

that at October's meeting where the property was discussed she had heard lots of voices speaking in favor of an indoor recreation center and that she felt the council should determine a budget for the project before hosting an open house at the gym to solicit community feedback and deciding based

on that input. Councilor Deanna Hammond said that she felt there had been agreement at the October meeting not to pursue a big project at the site because of tsunami concerns. Hayes said that he felt the council had already done what Kerr was suggesting and that he had enough information to decide on the

Hammond added that the council needed to keep in mind that a legal settlement with a group of citizens who challenged previous plans for renovating the school requires that any new project at the site be different in scope and lower in cost than the previous plans

Kerr said that she felt there was too much support for a recreation center for the council not to discuss the possibility. Hammond suggested that the council add an indoor recreation center to their vision plan for the city for the next five years, saying that if the council committed to finding a site to house one elsewhere, citizens might be more receptive to turning the Necus property into a park.

Kerr then said that she did not think there was a mandate on the project's budget and that she believed the council should determine a budget for the project and let that guide the scope. Hayes responded that he had proposed a \$6.1 million budget at the previous meeting that would use funds already set aside for the project.

Kerr said that she felt there had not been enough public discussion of the proposed budget for the council to take a mandate from the citizenry and that any decision they made should not be framed in

that way. Haves responded that citizens might want a community center but that did not mean that council could build one, and Hammond added that the council needed to decide what to do with the property quickly as the city will be required to start paying taxes on money borrowed for the project in 18 months.

Kerr ceded the point and council moved into a brief discussion of elements they would like to see at the property.

All agreed that some parking needed to be part of the design, as did public art and an interpretative trail to honor the site's native legacy, and that a small meeting space or classroom should be on the wish list, should the budget allow. Hayes said that he thought it would be important to involve the community, through the auspices of the Tourism and Arts Commission and Parks Committee, in the trail design process.

St. Denis then asked if councilors were in favor of the CMGC or hard date approach. Councilors said they were in favor of a CMGC and St. Denis asked if they would like to use Cida, the firm serving as CMGC for the ongoing city hall and police station projects, for the Necus project as well.

Hayes said that he felt many in the city had soured on Cida during the previous planning cycle for the school property and that it would make more sense for the city to work with a different firm with park-specific experience.

Others concurred and council instructed St. Denis and staff to create a request for proposals for a designer for the project.

# CRD celebrates new natatorium

WILL CHAPPELL Gazette Editor

Members of the north county community gathered on November 15, for a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new pools at the North County Recreation District

in Nehalem. At the ceremony, former North County Recreation District (NCRD) Executive Director Barbara McCann, Board Chair Michael House and current Executive Director Justin Smith all spoke, lauding the community's support of the project that builds on nearly a century's legacy of teaching children in the community to swim.

"This facility represents more than water and walls; it marks a new beginning for NCRD," said Smith. "We honor nearly a century of memories from the old pool and step boldly into the future with this new, stateof-the-art one. So today, as we cut this ribbon, let's celebrate not just the project being finished, but the future of what we've begun."

McCann, a former board member who served as executive director for several years before Smith's arrival earlier this year, spoke first at the ceremony, giving a history of the district and its mission to teach local youth to swim.

The community's commitment to swimming education started in 1929, when, after the drowning deaths of two youth, community members asked the local school board to include a pool in the upcoming expansion of the Nehalem Elementary School. The school board agreed and built a pool in the basement of the new wing of the school.

"Even though it was the Great Depression, the community felt the pool was a necessity and not a luxury," McCann explained. "They believed in our community, surrounded by water, every child should learn to

swim as part of their basic education to prevent future drowning."

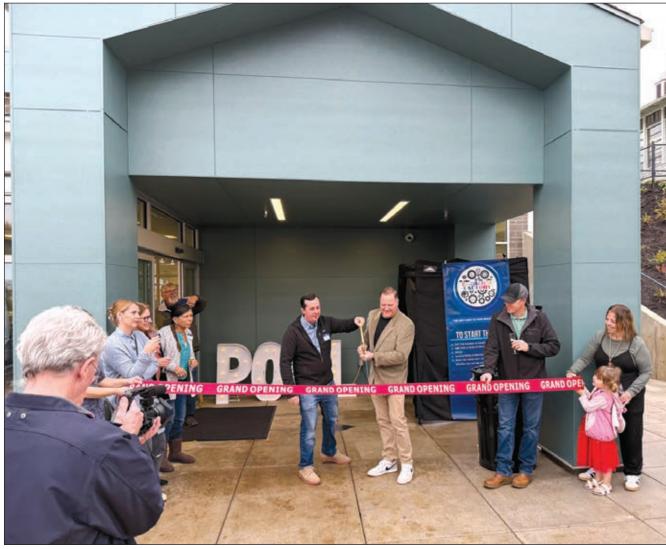
For almost 60 years, the pool remained an asset for the school district, until in the late 1980s, they consolidated their primary education efforts in the current Nehalem Elementary School building down the hill from the school with the pool. At that point, the Tillamook Board of County Commissioners stepped in to administer the pool, but their funding ran short in 1995, and local community members were informed they would need to find an alternate funding source by the end of June or see the pool shuttered.

At that point, a group of locals, including McCann, came together to form the nonprofit Friends of the Nehalem Pool and raised funds to cover operating expense for two years to give them time to craft a long-term solution.

That solution was forming NCRD, for which the group sought voter approval with ballot measure 29 in November 1996, receiving 60% support from voters, allowing the district to begin operations on July 1, 1997.

McCann said that at first, district leaders planned to upgrade the existing pool to continue the swim education program in conjunction with the Neah-Kah-Nie School District, but that it became apparent over time that replacing the pool would be necessary.

Progress towards the replacement began in earnest under Executive Director Peter Nunn, who led the district from 2008-2014, and hired pool architect Carl Sherwood to create a conceptual design for the new pool, which was unveiled in 2013. McCann said that the design did not generate community support at the time and Nunn decided to instead renovate the district's auditorium to build more support.



NCRD Board Chair Michael House (left center) and Executive Director Justin Smith (right center) cut the ribbon to celebratorily open the district's new pool as a crowd, including former NCRD Executive Director Barbara McCann (third from left) watch.

After the completion of that project and with a new executive director, David Wiegan, leading the district, focus shifted to the pool project in 2016, with Wiegan kicking off a capital campaign to support the project and eventually advancing an \$8.2-million bond question to the ballot in 2020. That bond measure passed with nearly 60% community support, but the timing proved inopportune as the coronavirus pandemic exploded, causing massive inflation and pushing the estimated cost of the project from \$12 million to \$16 million.

At that point, McCann had taken over the executive directorship of the district

and, along with the board, decided that the project would be broken into three phases to get construction started and prevent further cost escalations, while trusting that the balance of the funding would be found.

"We proceeded by faith," McCann said, "if you build it, the money will come."

And it did. Donors large and small across the community supported the project, which broke ground in 2023, with Adventist Health Tillamook donating \$500,000 in support of the facility's therapy pool in June 2024, and the Tillamook Board of County Commissioners rounding out the needed funding with the award of \$1.7 million in transient lodging tax funds to the project in December

2024. After recounting the history behind the pool, McCann handed the microphone over to House, who

spoke briefly, thanking the community for its support of the project.

"Thank you to all of our patrons and taxpayers that voted to help fund this project and our district in general, and thank you to our many, many donors both large and small, every dollar counts," House said. "The generosity and support of this community never ceases to amaze me.'

Finally, Smith addressed the crowd, detailing the support that had made the project possible, which totaled 591 donations. Smith said that 153 families had donated a total of \$1.7 million, individuals had bought 404 commemorative bricks raising \$80,000, 20 foundations and charities had given \$2.78 million, 14 businesses donated \$20,000, county commissioners had chipped in \$1.7 million, the bond contributed \$8.2 million and a loan had been taken to cover the balance of the \$16-million

"As you can imagine, with 591 donations, (district staffer) Kylie would always make the joke this building was built five dollars at a time, and honestly, it couldn't be more true,' Smith said. "As a result, we have a 15,000-squarefoot aquatic center, with a 145,000-gallon lap pool, a 30,000-gallon therapy pool and an outdoor patio to be

enjoyed next summer." Smith then invited event attendees to grab a flute of sparkling apple cider from the building's foyer, and the crowd toasted the new facility before Smith and House cut the ribbon to open the facility, which has been open to swimmers since September.

Tours were then offered, as well as games for kids, a photo booth and snacks, before a free, open swim.















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As the year winds down and the waves keep rolling in, we're grateful for the wonderful clients and community we serve. Wishing you peaceful days, cozy nights, and a bright New Year. Thank you for letting us be a part of your real estate story.









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Event attendees survey the new pools at NCRD.



McCann details the history of the district and pool project for the crowd gathered at the ribbon cutting ceremony.

### Cannon Beach Chorus Winter Concert Series 2025

Cannon Beach Chorus presents a joyful winter concert at two locations on the first weekend in December. On Friday, December 5 the concert starts at 7 pm at Cannon Beach Community Church, 132 East Washington and on December 7 the concert starts at 3 p.m. at Nehalem Bay United Methodist Church, 36050 10th Street, Nehalem, Oregon. Our concerts this season are free of charge, donations gladly accepted. Everyone is welcome to enjoy the music and the spirit of community. Please join us December 5 or December 7 for our concert, titled: "Joy through the World."

Members of Cannon Beach Chorus come from as far south as Tillamook and as far north as Warrenton to practice once a



week in preparation for two concert series each year. We welcome new members at the beginning of each season. In addition to two concert series each year, we sponsor a scholarship for high school seniors who plan to continue the study of choral music in higher education. To learn more about Chorus membership and about applying for the Cannon Beach Chorus Scholarship, visit our website at cannonbeachchorus.org. For our upcoming "Joy through the World" concerts, we joyfully sing songs from China, Poland, England, Nigeria, Spain, Trinidad, and even Hollywood! The Chorus is accompanied by piano,

flute, and percussion for the concert and invites you to join in on our final song of the evening before you head home, hopefully with a song in your heart.

Cannon Beach Chorus invites you to a free con-

cert on Friday, December 5 at 7 p.m. at Cannon Beach Community Church or Sunday matinée (3 p.m.) at Nehalem Bay Methodist Church. Come to enjoy not only the music and the fellowship and nutrition of a lively intermission, but also the opportunity to slow down for a few minutes in the midst of this busy time of year to breath in a world of joy.

The Cannon Beach Chorus is a north Oregon coast community chorus, offering the gift of vocal music to delight our audiences, providing joy and challenge for participants, and expanding awareness and appreciation of the choral arts. Registered as a non-profit in Oregon since 1990, we are a donation and grant-funded organization.

# Tolovana Arts Colony's Holiday Bazaar returns

Tolovana Arts Colony's Holiday Bazaar returns for two weekends of locally-made arts and craft sales, beginning December 5th in Cannon Beach

Why shop online or brave the big box stores when you could shower your loved ones with one-of-a-kind, locally made gifts that support your community?

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Arts Colony's annual Holiday Gift Bazaar is a no brainer--a lively and meaningful antidote to cold, corporate consumerism.

The Bazaar runs for two weekends, Dec. 6th & 7th as well as 13th & 14th from noon to 5 p.m. each day.

But wait... that's not all! We're hosting a reception and party on opening night: Friday, December 5th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

We'll have hot food, drinks and sweets to go alongside all the fabulous items on offer at the Bazaar.

On display--and available for purchase--will be a stunning array of works from local artists and crafters including everything from jewelry to house wares, fine arts to clothing, snacks, beauty products and more. Indeed,

there'll be something for everyone. Surprises abound!

But be advised: some of these are one-of-a-kind items and many will be scooped up quick.

Besides offering some of the coolest, locally-made art and crafts around, gift buying at the bazaar provides critical support to local artists and crafters. Your purchases are a big deal--especially at this time of year.

So rather than adding to fuel to Jeff Bezos's rocket or Mark Zuckerberg's pocket, keep it in the community and shop with purpose!

For more information,

visit tolovanaartscolony.org, email tolovanaartscolony@gmail.com or call 541-215-4445.

Tolovana Hall is located at 3779 S. Hemlock in Cannon Beach.

# Tea, treats, crafts, quilt, and library holiday cheer

The Cannon Beach Library's Annual Holiday Tea will be held on Saturday, December 6th at the library, 131 N Hemlock Street, in Cannon Beach. This is a FREE community event sponsored by members and volunteers of the library. The tea runs from 1 to 4 p.m., before the City's Annual Lamp Lighting Ceremony across the street at Sandpiper

Square.

Community members and visitors are welcome to enjoy tea, hot mulled cider, home-baked cookies, and other treats in front of our cozy fireplace, surrounded by charming holiday decorations. The Holiday Tea is a chance for us to come together as a community to enjoy good food, good cheer, and good company. While

you're there, don't miss the chance to shop for hand-made crafts at our Holiday Craft Sale. We will also draw the winner of our Annual Quilt Raffle. Tickets are on sale at www.cannonbeach-library.org or at the library. Come celebrate the season!

All bakers are welcome to drop treats off at the library on Friday December 5th between 10a.m. and 4 p.m. or on Saturday morning between 10 a.m. and noon. Please call the library at 503-436-1391 or email manager@cannonbeachlibrary.org if you have any questions or can help with this event.



### Haystack Holdiays

From Page A1

The first workshop was held November 29, with additional workshops scheduled December 6 from 11 a.m.–3 p.m. The workshop will offer festive music, cookies, warm drinks, and all the supplies needed to craft a holiday wreath. Each wreath is \$25, with a discount for those who recycle last year's ring. No registration required — walk-ins are encouraged.

From December 1–31, downtown comes alive for Cannon Beach in Lights, transforming storefronts into glowing displays. Visitors are invited to stroll through town and vote for their favorite festive setup. Running alongside it is the "Name That Tune" Window Display Contest (December 1–20), where participants pick up a playing card at the Chamber of Commerce and match clever holiday-themed displays to their corresponding songs. Completed cards can be submitted to the chamber for a chance to win a basket

of locally made goods.
The first two weekends
of the month bring the
Tolovana Arts Colony Holiday Bazaar, held December
6–7 and December 13–14.
With an opening reception
on December 5, the bazaar
showcases locally made art,
crafts, gifts, and handmade
goods — a perfect stop for
holiday shopping.

December 6 is especially event-packed: families can enjoy Photos with Santa from 11 a.m.—1 p.m., then warm up at the Cannon Beach Library Holiday Tea between 1—4 p.m., complete with cookies, tea, cider, and the annual quilt drawing. At 4 p.m., the community gathers in Sandpiper Square for the beloved Lamp

Lighting Ceremony — complete with performances, carols, Santa's arrival, and the ceremonial lighting itself. As Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jim Paino notes, "Lamp lighting was really kind of our signature holiday event. You know, the whole town pretty much shows up for that."

The festive momentum continues with Paint & Sip with Dawning's Art at Pelican Brewing on December 10, offering step-by-step instruction and a gift card to the brewery. Operation Candy Cane follows December 11–13, as Santa rides through Cannon Beach on a decorated fire engine, handing out candy canes in exchange for donations supporting the warming center and food bank.

On December 13, the Cannon Beach Library hosts Holiday Story Time from

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1–2 p.m., complete with ornament decorating and take-home treats. Then on December 16, Pelican Brewing hosts Hammer & Stain Craft Night, another guided workshop paired with food and drink.

Haystack Holidays concludes December 20, beginning with the Frosted Holiday Celebration at the History Center & Museum from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. The free, family-friendly event includes crafts, activities, and seasonal treats. Later that afternoon at 4:30 p.m., the town comes together for Caroling Downtown Cannon Beach, starting at the Chamber of Commerce with song sheets in both English and Spanish.

For updated details on all events, visit cannonbeach. org/HaystackHolidays or call the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce at 503-436-2623.

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# Board of Forestry discusses harvest models

WILL CHAPPELL Gazette Editor

At a special virtual meeting on November 18, Oregon's board of forestry discussed updated harvest projections provided by Oregon Department of

new management models for Oregon's state forests.

The new models, generated as part of the development of a forest management plan (FMP) that will govern forest management for ten years, projected



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ARBORIST - TREE CARE

that by departing from an even flow of timber, state forests could see between 205 and 230 million board feet (mmbf) of annual harvest. The projections represented a significant increase from the 165 to 182.5 mmbf of harvest projected when the board controversially finalized a habitat conservation plan (HCP) for western Oregon state forests last March.

The meeting began with public comment with representatives from the Association of Oregon Loggers, Stimson Lumber and several local residents speaking in favor of adopting the newly

**Publish Date** 

Jan. 2

Feb. 6

Mar. 6

April 3

projected harvest figures as performance estimates, as the board was scheduled to consider.

Meanwhile, representatives from environmental groups, including the Wild Salmon Center and the Seven Capes Bird Alliance, argued that the choice needed to be delayed and that setting performance measures related to specific harvest levels was illegal.

Tillamook County Commissioner Erin Skaar, speaking on behalf of the Forest Trust Land Advisory Committee (FTLAC), made up of representatives from the counties

**Deadline** 

Dec. 29, 10 a.m.

Feb. 2, 10 a.m.

Mar. 2, 10 a.m.

Mar. 30, 10 a.m.

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that receive state forest revenues, said that the updated projections were welcome after discussions with the governor's office about ways to replace lost revenues have gone nowhere. Skaar said that given the fact that 55% of state forests were already managed for conservation of threatened and endangered species, FTLAC members believed instituting additional constraints, such as requiring an even flow was unnecessary, and asked there be no cap on allowable harvest levels.

Mike Wilson, the Oregon Department of Forestrv's (ODF) State Forests Division Chief, then spoke about how the updated projections had been reached. Wilson said that after a June meeting with the board and FTLAC, staff had integrated county feedback that having an even flow of timber over the 70-year course of the HCP was not a priority and that they would prefer to have higher harvest levels in coming years to better prepare for later decreases.

Smith and two other

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ODF staffers then discussed the details of three different scenarios presented to the board, with projected harvest levels between 205 and 230 mmbf. Wilson said that all the models met the conditions placed on state forests by the HCP and represented a realistic range for harvests. Wilson concluded by saying that staff would bring the board updated projections before they make a final decision on the FMP next June.

After the staff presentation, Board Chair Jim Kelly kicked off discussion among the board, saying that he wanted guidance from the Oregon Department of Justice on the legality of setting performance targets related to specific harvest levels.

Board Member Liz Agpaoa said that she wanted to hear more input from foresters about the alternatives and that the higher projected harvests were welcome as counties and ODF's state forest division which relies on revenues from state forest timber harvests, face a budget crunch.

Board Member Heath Curtiss said that he was concerned about the difference between the projected figures and how much timber would eventually be harvested but said that he favored the scenario with 230 mmbf of projected harvest.

Board Member Ben Deumling said that he had no strong feelings about the difference between the scenarios but that he would like to have more clarity on how the increase impacted other aspects of

forest management. Kelly said that he wanted to see harvest levels as high as possible under the constraints of the HCP and was happy to see departures from even flow on the table.

Board Member Brenda McComb said that she felt she did not have enough information to decide on harvest volumes, requesting more information on the impacts increased harvests would have on other performance measures and voicing concern about the legality of the move.

Finally, Board Member oe Iustice said that all the alternatives presented at the meeting were a big win for the department for a departure from even flow. Kelly said that he felt with well-managed forests, and that he believed there would be widespread support for that.

Dreams do not come true

Shonda Rhimes

1. Draft, Drift

9. Whine White

10. Sally, Silly

#### **ABOUT US CANNON BEACH GAZETTE**

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the announcement. All obituary announcements are placed on the

on Monday the week of publication. Publication dates subject to change. **BUSINESS DIRECTORY Super** Crossword **ACROSS** 50 Review of a classic board Served in blazing liquor game? 54 Quiver 7 Longtime executive of 56 Tangle up the Oakland 57 Trifecta, e.g. Raiders 58 1/60 min. 14 Utters words 60 Like some 20 Tulip relatives noisy little 21 Divider of dogs musical 61 — ÖPs measures (CIA tactics) 22 Began 62 Maple or oak vigorously 64 Morally rigid 23 Classic board 68 60% of cinco game played 69 Classic board by judges game that's between popular with trials? inhabitants of 25 Put in a box heaven? 26 Ending for 73 Make whole priest again 27 Gets frantic 75 San with fear Francisco's 28 Oil rig part region 30 Feel sore 76 Don of radio 31 Russian 77 Tennis match war vessel unit 80 First-string on which a classic board players 82 Springfield's game is played? Flanders 35 Person 83 Singapore knocking over sling liquor 85 Havana a drink, e.g. resident, to — aueen ("You go!") Havanans 39 Grandiosity 87 Infatuate 40 "Toodle-oo!" 41 Bauxite, e.g. game played

a broom game? 123 Prickly plant 15 Ballpoint, e.g. 16 Put up tents 124 Snooty sort 17 Sharp as 18 Maker of 125 "Everything's GOLEAN good here 126 "Marty" star cereals Borgnine 19 Dutch genre 127 When a check to a landlord 89 Classic board is due 44 Publish anew at a shindig? 128 "- what your 47 Neighbor of 3 Tennis cour country can do for you ..." Mich. and III. divider 20 23 26 32 33 36 37

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thought!" 97 Filly's father 98 Mexican 81-Down 99 "Combat!" actor Morrow 101 Captured with a rope 104 Classic board game you keep making people play even though they have no 111 Appeal fright 114 Ovid's "-

GAZETTE.

The deadline for advertising, letters to the editor,

press releases, obituaries and legal notices is 10 a.m.

112 Voting group 113 One causing Amatoria<sup>1</sup> 117 Regard highly 119 Shop

dedicated to selling a classic board

> 31 Actress Lively 32 Injure 33 "Got it now"

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painter Jan

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**72** "The jig — 73 Normandy

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Syndicate,

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and counties and that he agreed with arguments the strategy would give counties and the depart-

ment a good opportunity to transition from the status quo to a scenario

### **CryptoQuote**

just because you dream them. It's hard work that makes things happen.

# **Even Exchange**

2. Shiver, Shiner

7. Willa, Wilma 3. Barley, Barney 8. Andrew. Andrea

6. Prong. Prone

4. Judge, Nodge

5. Hunger, Hanger

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#### AT THE LIBRARY



#### Holiday Tea, Wise Stones, & A Host of Mysteries

#### By PHYLLIS BERNT **Library Volunteer**

December is special. It's a time to enjoy friends and family; overindulge in holiday treats; relish having some free time; and take stock of the past year.

To give the library's dedicated volunteers and great manager the free time to enjoy the holidays with their families and friends, the library will be closed on December 24, December 25 and January 1.

We at the Cannon Beach Library, as we take stock of this past year, have much to be thankful for. We are grateful for our dedicated volunteers; our talented, hard-working library manager; our wonderful patrons; and this beautiful, supportive

To show our gratitude, we invite all residents and visitors to the library's Annual Holiday Tea on

Saturday, December 6, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the library (131 N. Hemlock). Residents and visitors of all ages can enjoy time with old friends; make new acquaintances; drink tea and hot, mulled cider; and savor home-made treats provided by the library's talented volunteers.

Our younger patrons can get into the holiday spirit during the Holiday Storytime and Crafting Party on Saturday, December 13 at 1 p.m. Volunteers will read holiday stories in English and Spanish, then children can make snow globes and ornaments. Children will receive free holiday books and can take home hot chocolate bombs donated by Bruce's Candy Kitchen.

All ages are welcome to this free event, which is part of Cannon Beach Haystack Holidays. Haystack Holidays events are listed on the Cannon Beach Chamber website at https:// www.cannonbeach.org.

Participants in the Cannon Beach Reads Book Club will gather for the last meeting of 2025 when they meet at 5 p.m. Wednesday, December 17, to discuss "Turning to Stone: Discovering the Subtle Wisdom of Rocks," by geologist Marcia Bjornerud

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).

'Turning to Stone' is both a memoir and a geology primer, recounting both Bjornerud's life story and the earth's history. Each of the book's ten chapters focuses on the formation and significance of a specific type of rock, while also describing an important period in Bjornerud's own life as she grows from a bright, curious girl in rural Wisconsin to an accomplished scientist

Bjornerud's career coincided with major developments in the study of geology. Early geologic study focused on identifying, describing and cataloging the different types of rocks. Thanks to new technologies, sophisticated laboratory techniques and advanced computational modeling, modern geologists do more than just inventory and describe rocks, they explain the formation and functions of rocks, and by doing so, explain the history and development of the earth.

Marcia Bjornerud, a structural geologist, is the Walter Schober Professor of Environmental Studies and a Professor of Geosciences at Lawrence University in Wisconsin. "Turning to Stone" was awarded the prestigious John Burroughs Medal for Natural History Writing in 2025 because of its clear, accessible prose, and its ability to combine

storytelling with scientific explanation. Her other books include: "Reading the Rocks: The Autobiography of the Earth" and "Timefulness: How Thinking Like a Geologist Can Help Save the World.'

Mary Lloyd will lead the discussion on December 17. Coffee and cookies will be provided at the library. The group will also finalize the list of books to be discussed in 2026. New members are always welcome.

Dropping by the book club is one way to spend some free time this holiday-filled month. Another way to spend some free time is to read some of the new books that have been added to the library collection. Mystery readers will find an especially attractive assortment of titles to choose from. Several authors of popular series have added new titles recently.

Ann Cleeves, who has entertained readers with the overly sensitive, highly perceptive detective Jimmy Perez in her eight-book Shetland series, brings Perez back in "The Killing Stones.

Now living in the Orkney Islands, where he is awaiting the birth of his second child with his partner and co-worker, Willow, Perez's happy life is disrupted when he finds the body of his closest friend, Archie Stout, who has been battered to death with a

Neolithic story stone. As Perez struggles to find Archie's killer, he uncovers ugly secrets about his friend that shake his assumptions about life,

family and community. Richard Osman has added a fifth book to his Thursday Murder Club mystery series with "The Impossible Fortune." It should be a joyous occasion. Retired nurse Jovce Meadowcroft is ecstatic because her daughter is finally getting married, but the festivities are rudely interrupted when the best man, Nick Silver, disappears and his car explodes.

The Thursday Murder Club members rally round to locate Nick and the bomber. Retired spy Elizabeth Best, who is still mourning her husband, uses her MI6 contacts and calls on Ron Ritchie's pugnacious instincts and Ibrahim Arif's intellectual prowess to help her and Joyce solve a crime filled with greedy bitcoin speculators, magnanimous gangsters and precocious children.

In the fourth installment of his Marlow Murder Club series, Robert Thorogood once again turns to retired archeologist Judith Potts, dog-walker Suzie Harris, and vicar's wife Becks Starling to untangle a convoluted murder mystery in "Murder on the Marlowe Belle.'

Judith Potts's success in solving crime is so widely

known in Marlow that when Verity Beresford's husband Oliver vanishes after taking a Thames boat trip on the newly refurbished pleasure cruiser the Marlow Belle, Verity turns to Judith to find him.

Oliver, the founder of the Marlow Amateur Dramatic Society and an egotistical would-be actor. was thrilled when Hollywood star Lizzie Jenkins chartered the Marlow Belle for a private party in Oliver's honor. But Oliver was nowhere to be seen when the cruiser returned to port. The sleuthing trio follows numerous plot twists before Judith realizes the surprising truth and unmasks an unexpected murderer.

And Louise Penny has just published her much -awaited 20th novel, "The Black Wolf.'

Chief Inspector Armand Gamache and his loyal lieutenants struggle to foil a nefarious plot to damage the amicable relationship between Canada and the US, and to destroy democracy in both countries.

Mysteries by all four of these authors have been adapted for movies and television programs if you would rather spend your free time hunkered down with a warm blanket and a hot drink. No matter how you choose to spend this December, we wish you the happiest of holidays.

#### LETTER

#### **Thanksgiving**

Thanksgiving means more than football games and generous meals shared with family and friends, although those traditions matter. The turning of the season into deep Autumn and deeper Winter invites contemplation, if you're willing.

Consider an invitation to take stock of blessings and challenges, gifts and griefs, comforts and pains. I'm considering what lies ahead, in roles and relation-

ships, in all those ways. You've blessed me with he privilege and responsibility for representing you on the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners, District 5, the whole southern half of the county, since 2015. Thank you. My third and final term of office completes Dec. 31, 2026.

Your Commissioner listens to people inside and outside the county, gathering data and opinions, hearing requests and demands. Then the interesting part of balancing and harmonizing all of it, informed by my own lived experience, commitments, and goals. My human frailties are part of the mix, too. Humility and flexibility bring more grace, but there's no pleasing everyone all the time. There's no way to be perfect all the time.

Nevertheless, what a profound joy to be able to deal with the best and worst in people and situations! What a kick in the pants to be able to bring you good things, keep bad things from happening to you, and creating opportunity for you to be your best and do

your best! And the inevitable criticisms? Ah, well. Part of the growth curve, aren't they? Some bring valid points and progress; others occur as malicious and mean-spirited. Sometimes I think, "Do you kiss people you love with that mouth?" Nevertheless, everyone deserves to be seen and heard, and no one should be blindly followed or obeyed. Even when a particular person deserves respect and consideration, you elect your representative to put the interests of everyone here and this beautiful, beloved place as

first priority. But we operate in relationships, in teams, in groups gathered for one purpose or another. Always, the task is balancing and

harmonizing to achieve the greatest good for the greatest number over the longest time. Is your head spinning? Mine sometimes

I've been talking to people about who will step up to run for the position in the May 2026 election to take

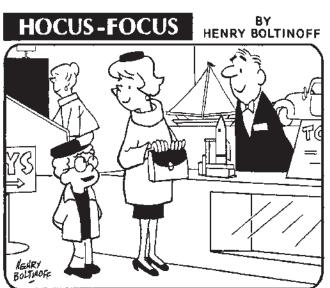
the oath of office in January 2027. Hooray! A community member is prepared to step up for you, and we're talking about what that means and how to carry on the progress we've made to increase the visibility, credibility, and effectiveness of the Clatsop County Board

of Commissioners.

As your Commissioner, I've worked diligently with other commissioners, including at the Association of Oregon Counties, the statewide organization that furthers the well-being of all counties in Oregon. I'm AOC's County Representa-

tive on the Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Advisory Committee, which has sent north of ten million (\$10,000,000) into Clatsop County schools, fire, and police organizations to pay for seismic rehabilitation during the time I've served on it. There are

other examples, but you get the idea: teamwork at the State level for our county's benefit. I'm inspired and hopeful this good work will continue. Thank you with all my heart for allowing me to be your person in Astoria, Salem, Portland, and beyond.



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



smallen 4. Skirt is longen 5. Pocket is added, 6. Boy is moved. Differences: 1. Leg is moved. 2. Sign is lower. 3. Sailboat is

#### **Super** Crossword ———

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# STORMY WEATHER

Arts Festival

From Page A1

kept the crowds busy.

Started in 1987 to bring energy to the shoulder season, the festival has grown from a small event attended by locals to an event drawing visitors from around the region and farther afield.





# Cannon Beach firefighters rescue two surfers just before king tides arrive

Cannon Beach Firefighters responded to a 911 call reporting of two surfers in distress at Indian Beach around 1:45 p.m. on November 4, 2025. When emergency crews arrived, they were able to locate the surfers with the assistance of the Cannon Beach Police using their drone. It took the water rescue team about 15 minutes to rescue the surfers and bring them safely back to shore where they were evaluated for any injuries. The surfers declined and medical care.

The National Weather Service issued a High Surf Advisory in effect from 4 a.m. to 7 p.m. pst Thursday and coastal flood advisory for minor tidal overflow remains in effect from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. pst Wednesday.

The Cannon Beach Fire

District reminds beach visitors to be cautious when entering the ocean. When Beach Hazards Statements are issued, keep children and pets close to you and away from the surf zone. Keep off jetties, rocks and logs near the surf zone. If you see someone swept into the sea do not swim in after them. Never turn your back on the ocean.

Call 911 and keep an eye on them until help arrives.

We would like to thank the Cannon Beach Police Department for their assistance in this incident. The Mission of Cannon Beach Fire District is dedicated to protecting life, property, and the environment for those who are living in and visiting the communities we proudly serve.

### **CryptoQuote**

AXYDLBAAXR is Longfellow

One letter stands for another. In this sample, **A** is used for the three L's, **X** for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

FZPYUT FQ MQH OQUP HZBP
RBTH VPOYBTP IQB FZPYU
HLPU. DH'T LYZF JQZW HLYH
UYWPT HLDMXT LYSSPM.

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TLQMFY ZLDUPT

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### Published: Cannon Beach-raised author debuts her first novel

D.S.G. Burke's new novel, "Mean High High Water," imagines different timelines and characters that are all, in one way or another, affected by climate change

> PIERCE BAUGH V for the Gazette

For author D.S.G. Burke, a love of reading kindled early. She spent seven years of her childhood living on a sailboat, before the ubiquity of the internet, and entertained herself by reading — The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame being one of her most formative

"That is the book, I think, to help young readers fall in love with the natural world," Burke said. From her years on the sailboat to her love of Grahame's children's book, the natural world became a passion that would persist into adulthood. She loved how reading was a portal into different worlds worldbuilding being something she would eventually learn to do herself.

Though she now lives in New York City, the Oregon-raised author's debut novel, Mean High High Water, was inspired by growing up on the Oregon Coast.

Her earliest years were spent in constant motion, moving from one place to another. During middle school, her family finally set anchor on the coast.

For Burke — who lived in Cannon Beach and attended Seaside High School, where she met her husband — Oregon left a lasting impression. Growing up in Oregon, Burke felt that hiking once a month didn't make her "outdoorsy." Now, living in the big city, she realizes how much that has shaped her and her appreciation for the environment.

"Regardless of your ideology, you have to appreciate the hundredyear-old trees and the way the weather imposes itself on your plans... It's a love of nature. It's where this all bloomed," Burke said.

Her passion for environmentalism was only strengthened when she worked as an aide to former Oregon House Rep. Jules Bailey, who made the environment one of

his main focuses while in office.

"It was so much fun," she said. "I was in my 20s, in awe of the privilege - the power - of being in that space and having direct access to laws."

It was there Burke learned one of the most overlooked lessons of civic life: "The legislature is one of those bodies most everyday people don't pay a lot of attention to, but the work they do affects your day-to-day life so much more than who's president... It was an amazing learning experience."

She now works for a family foundation that funds nonprofits focused on clean energy — an endeavor she believes requires philanthropic support and not just reliance on corporations or the

While she has been writing since she was a child, she hasn't always imagined

herself being an author. Mean High High Water - a term referring to different categories of water lines, used to estimate the severity of sea level rise started as a short story. but Burke admits that short stories aren't her strong suit. People would tell her that a short story of hers "seemed more like a chapter of a longer book."

She wrote the novel in fits and spurts, sometimes on planes and in hotel rooms, after a long day of

"Writing a book feels a little insane... working all day, then four more hours at the computer," she said. "I went through many periods of crippling selfdoubt."

But after two years of

writing when she could, and managing the killer of creativity that is selfdoubt, Burke's debut novel was selected by Vine Leaves Press in 2024. She worked with an editor from Vine Leaves Press for three months to prepare her story for bookshelves.

This January, it will finally be released.

The book opens with a gruesome discovery: a shoe washes up on a beach with a foot still inside, found by the protagonist, who has been grief-stricken for years. The discovery leads her to revisit the pain of her past and imagine the shoe might be connected to it, sending her down a path of revenge.

The idea behind a shoe with a foot washing ashore was inspired by an article Burke read about

## Forest center hosts Rain Festival

WILL CHAPPELL Gazette Editor

In celebration of the return of wet weather, the Tillamook Forest Center hosted its annual rain festival on November 15 and 16, welcoming members of the public to enjoy and explore the rainforest.

At the festival, attendees were invited to participate in a variety of rain-themed games and crafts, including a salmon migration game, rainy photo booth and typing a poem at a typewriter facing the forest.

Foresters from the center also offered two daily activities, with a salmon release giving visitors the opportunity to free fry raised in the center in the Wilson River near the center and a mushroom walk educating them about fungi in the forest.

On the mushroom walk. Charlie, a forester from the Oregon Department of Forestry, led groups through the forest while explaining

the role of mushrooms in the ecosystem.

Charlie told the group on his Sunday walk that mushrooms connect the forest and do dirty jobs that help to keep the ecosystem functioning. He explained that mushrooms were simply the visible flower for the mycelium fungus that lives at their base, absorbing water from the soil that they then use to blow up their mushrooms.

Most mycelia are small, Charlie explained, though some are enormous, with a mycelium in Malheur County in eastern Oregon registering as the largest organism in the world and tipping the scales at an estimated 75 tons.

Mushrooms themselves grow quickly, with the fastest recorded variety growing up to six and a half inches in an hour, according to Charlie, and their purpose is to spread mycelium spores, which they release from their underside when hit with a

light breeze. There are three types of mycelia, defined by the different ways they obtain food, Charlie said. Saprophytic mycelia eat dead material from the forest

floor, parasitic mycelia grow on other organisms and take their nutrients, and mycorrhizal mycelia grow on the roots of plants where they absorb certain nutrients like phosphorous

and nitrogen for the plant in return for sugar and carbon.

Charlie wrapped up the tour with advice for foraging for mushrooms, stressing above all the

importance of knowing the type of mushroom one was collecting, as well as making sure to know who owns the land you want to forage on and their rules for harvest.

## 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. Light wind		A	Float aimlessly								
2. Shake from the cold			Blackeye	N							
3. Brew master's grain		_ L	Purple dinosaur	N							
4. Adjudicate	J		Poke with the elbow	N							
5. Want of food	U		Closet accessory	_ A							
6. Fork tine		G	Face down	E							
7. Author Cather		_ L _	Fred's cartoon wife	M							
8 Lloyd Webber		W	Bocelli	A							
9. Whimper		_ N _	as a ghost	T _							
10. Actress Field	A		Goofy	_ 1							
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# WIPES CLOG PIPES!

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Flushing ONLY human waste and toilet paper

Throwing away "flushable" wipes, diapers, and hygiene products that stick in pipes

Disposing of food waste, fats, oils, and grease in the garbage

# Leave the Ordinary.

# CHOOSE THE EXTRAORDINARY.

NEW MEMBERS IN CLATSOP & COLUMBIA COUNTIES ONLY

4.50% 7-MONTH SHARE CERTIFICATE

- Only \$500 to open
- No checking account required!

# 4.25% CHOICE CHECKING

Earn an epic rate on balances up to \$20K, plus ATM fee refunds and no minimum balance or maintenance fees when you take three easy steps.

- Make 12+ debit card transactions of \$5+ per cycle
- Receive E-Statements
- Have one direct deposit or automatic electronic payment, or one credit card purchase per cycle

Miss a step? You'll still earn dividends, just at a lower rate.\*



LEARN MORE & JOIN US TODAY!
FIBRECU.COM/EXTRAORDINARY

\*Rates stated as Annual Percentage Yield (APY), effective July 16, 2025 and are subject to change. **Share certificate:** \$500 minimum balance to earn APY, penalty for early withdrawal. **Choice Checking:** Minimum \$25 to open. Minimum balance of .01 to earn APY. Portion of balance over \$20,000 earns 0.25% APY. ATM fees (up to a maximum of \$25 per cycle) will be refunded if account requirements are met. If the account requirements are not met, the APY will be 0.10% and ATM fees will not be refunded. Limited to two accounts per primary member. Business Accounts are not eligible. Fees may reduce earnings. Choice Checking cycle is from the 25th of month to the day before the last day of the following month.





