

# Port Orford *Today!*

Port Orford's **BEST NEWSPAPER!**

Vol. 12 Number 15

**Thursday, April 26, 2001**

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## The Downtown Fun Zone

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## Charges Fly at Port Meeting By Evan Kramer



The Port of Port Orford Commission met last Tuesday in regular session following their strategic plan workshop. Commissioner Leesa Cobb asked chairman

Scott Macdonald the whereabouts of the two items she asked be placed on the agenda. Macdonald told Cobb to get in touch with the staff. He told her the items would be addressed under agenda item 7 labeled other business – commissioners. Ed Dowdy asked Macdonald why the items weren't on the agenda.

The commission next heard public comments. Gayle Wilcox read a letter addressed to the commission regarding Billy Potter. The letter was signed by Port Orford Volunteer Fire Department chief Randy Foster. It said that Potter had been a member of the fire department for the past five years and a valuable one. Foster asked the commission to do the right thing and reinstate Billy Potter back as a Port employee. Port manager Mike Nielson fired Potter who worked as a hoist operator on February 26.

Dave Rickel spoke next and said the commissioner Dave Darnell owes the public

an explanation. He told Darnell that he had brought his personal problems on the dock and dumped them on Billy Potter. Rickel told Darnell, "You brought this on the Port." Darnell denied the accusation.

Commissioner Chris Hawthorne made a motion to nominate George Welch and Evan Kramer to fill positions 4 and 5 on the budget committee and it passed. Hawthorne then made a motion to adopt the public records inspections rules for the port and it passed 5-0. These rules regard access to Port records by the public and set fees for photocopying and staff time in filling out requests for records.

The commission discussed the funding commitment letter from the Oregon Economic Community Development Department dated April 10 or as OECD put it a "conditional grant." The letter of commitment is for \$321,210 and is for fixing three problems with the new dock. \$165,000 is to retrofit the new cranes, \$104,210 is to correct the fuel system on the dock, and \$50,000 is for engineering and installation costs to fix the surge problem. Mike Nielson said the port has not received the contract for the money. He said there were no pay back by the Port tied to the grant. Nielson said the Port would be able to close out the dock project in 60 days and then focus on the strategic plan. There are several condi-

# FREE!

**Alcohol Awareness Month**

tions in the letter/grant including the Port agreeing to pursue legal and insurance remedies related to the three problems.

Two officials from OECD were in attendance at the Port meeting including Chris Claflin and Ed Wate. Leesa Cobb asked them about any additional conditions in the contract and about the timeframe. Ed Wate told her the contract had been turned over to the Attorney General's office for review but he didn't anticipate any more conditions.


Scott Macdonald spoke next and referred to a recent letter in the papers. He said the only dealings he had with the New Dock contractors were he had given them his business card. He stated that he had done no business with Laskey-Clifton and that he didn't bid on any projects.

Next followed an interchange between commissioners Darnell and Cobb. It had something to do with Cobb meeting with county commissioners and a letter from an attorney but the entire exchange left the public befuddled.

Curry County Commissioner Lucie La Bonte said she had spoken with Leesa Cobb and Chris Hawthorne. She said commissioner Cobb had come in to talk about the strategic plan.

**Continued on Back Cover**

**R. AuFranc**  
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**Tide Predictions For Port Orford - 42° 44 N 124° 30 W**

Produced by "Tides & Currents for Windows" version 2.0 by Nautical Software (503) 579-1414

Date	Time Tide	Time Tide	Time Tide	Time Tide	Sun		Moon		Rise	Set	Rise	Set Phase
					Rise	Set	Rise	Set				
Thu Apr 26, 2001	1:45a 7.4	8:41a -1.0	3:18p 5.7	8:26p 2.7	6:17a	8:13p	8:53a	11:47p				
Fri Apr 27, 2001	2:24a 7.3	9:29a -1.0	4:15p 5.5	9:12p 3.1	6:15a	8:14p	9:42a	12:50a				
Sat Apr 28, 2001	3:08a 7.1	10:23a -0.9	5:20p 5.4	10:10p 3.4	6:14a	8:16p	10:39a	1:46a				
Sun Apr 29, 2001	4:02a 6.8	11:24a -0.7	6:30p 5.4	11:24p 3.6	6:12a	8:17p	11:42a	2:35a				
Mon Apr 30, 2001	5:09a 6.5	12:30p -0.5	7:37p 5.6		6:11a	8:18p	12:50p	3:18a			1Q	
Tue May 1, 2001	12:50a 3.4	6:29a 6.2	1:36p -0.3	8:35p 6.0	6:10a	8:19p	1:59p	3:54a				
Wed May 2, 2001	2:12a 2.8	7:52a 6.0	2:37p -0.1	9:23p 6.4	6:08a	8:20p	3:08p	4:26a				
Thu May 3, 2001	3:20a 1.9	9:08a 6.1	3:32p 0.1	10:05p 6.9	6:07a	8:21p	4:17p	4:55a				

**Senior News**

April 19th was Rotary luncheon – Volunteers working were Betty Boyer, Norma Ellis, Mary Evans, Bobbeta Kron, S. Tremble, Kay Neal and yes Norm Rice doing dishes – help I guess from others. I heard some nice complements on the sauerkraut luncheon – good going Volunteers – April 28th is our luncheon at 11:30am, rummage sale 8 till 1pm – yes free. Best come enjoy the luncheon and take time for shopping.

On May 5th – Saturday 2 till four ice cream bars free for kids 12 years and younger – at the center.

April 24th was office staff meeting also membership meeting.

Walking group Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:30.

Dominoes every Thursday at 1:00.

Did you ever stop and think what the volunteers do for the center? They earn the

money to pay the bills. Yes, water, garbage, lights, sewer, insurance license to feed people. I think we owe them a great big thank you don't you? We could use a few more volunteers like in this office, kitchen etc. - get time come on down besides work it's fun.

One more thing the computer class is still on Monday night 4 till 6.

Hope I've said it all.

Oh you won't be any poorer  
If you smile along the way  
And your lot will not be harder  
For the kindly things you say.

Don't imagine you are wasting time  
For others that you spend  
You can rise to wealth and glory  
And still pause to be a friend.

**AARP 55 Alive Program**

Before heading out for that summer driving vacation, brush up on your driving skills. Learn how to improve your driving

skills with an AARP 55-Alive Driver Safety Program. The program may help you drive down the cost of automobile insurance and give you life-saving skills.

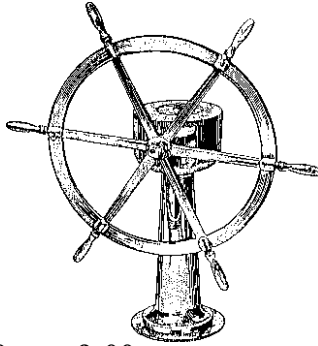
SWOCC is sponsoring the 55-Alive class on Monday and Tuesday, May 7-8, from 9:30am to 1:30pm at the Port Orford Senior Center. Popular instructors Bessie Laursen and Thelma Lagace present this informative and interesting class. The two-day workshop coordinated with AARP features information and driving techniques of special interest to drivers 55 and older. Participants are introduced to ways to reduce their chances of being involved in a traffic accident. After successful completion of the course, participants may be eligible for insurance cost reductions.

There is a \$10.00 charge for materials and is made payable to AARP. Pre-registration is appreciated. Call SWOCC for more info or to register. Gold Beach 247-2741, or Port Orford (Fridays) 332-3023.

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## Name on the Door by Graeme Graydon



Not many communities these days can count their Post Office as one of the principle social centers in the town. I love that somehow there's a way of life here in Port

Orford, that creates the need to go out to get the mail from a ridiculously small box in the foyer of the Post Office. It is hard not to be greeted by someone – sure there are times when I don't know anyone, but others when a whole string of friends, neighbors and acquaintances flows through at the same time. It's not a hang-out place, usually no more than greetings, a few words and we're all off again into our separate ways. And we all play the game of doorman from time to time – a tiny act of consideration towards each other. Sometimes there are floods of mailings and the Post Office, having delivered, helps round up and recycle the newsprint that few want to be bothered with. Occasionally there is a spread of unwanted catalogs left on the table in the foyer – perhaps someone would like to see them before they get dumped. There

are places for socially responsible notices, public events and lost and found animals, but don't try to sell your old fridge there, the sign will vanish – very quickly

The feature that really gets my attention though, is the custom of posting death and funeral notices right next to the main entrance. Reach out your hand to pull the door open, and there, just inches away, taped to the glass, is a hastily or carefully done announcement. It's our way here of getting timely information to as many people as possible who could be interested – and it works very well

I didn't realize how well until last week. I was on my knees reaching delicately into my box so I wouldn't push everything out the other side, when an elderly gentleman burst noisily into the foyer. On seeing me, he announced quite loudly, "I see my name is not on the door, I must have another day to live," and he laughed heartily. He explained that he had 85 years under his belt and gave thanks daily for his good health. When he learned my age, he declared that I was just a kid. There was something outrageously funny and solidly good about his high spirits, I couldn't stop laughing- "I must have an-

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other day to live."

Come to think of it, those of us who stay around Port Orford will one day get our name up on the window by the door, until then, I had better live my "another day", very well. Oh, and another thought, if you should have trouble accepting that you're actually "dead" and out of your body, someone will surely take you to the Post Office, where you will be able to see for yourself.

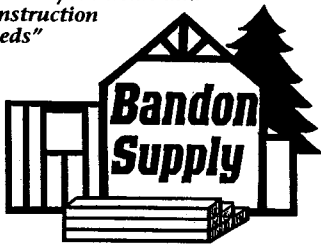
## New Brochures

The Visitor Center at Battle Rock Park has received many new guide books for the 2001 tourist season. Recently arriving are the new Travel Guides, Where To Stay Guides, Events Calendar, Mile By Mile Guide, Snow Sport and Golf Guides. Make sure to come down and check out the new and updated materials.

Along with the warmer weather comes more visitors to our center. We had 160 people sign the guest book this last week, with guests from as far away as Edjorg, Germany and Wahiawa, HI. From the United States came people from Topeka, KS and Germantown, TN. This last week we had a lot of surfers enjoying our waves. On the 17th the state and local police were called down to investigate a flare that was found on the beach.

If you haven't been down to the Visitor Center in awhile come on down and see what we have to offer.

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### Dave Showalter

Dave Showalter died on Easter Sunday by his own choice. He was 63 years old. Showalter had sold his Silver Springs Motel on Port Orford Loop Road in March of this year and had moved back to Ft. Bragg where he and his wife Rayna shared a home. Despite the fact Showalter took his own life, his wife said he wasn't depressed and his was a strong, conscious choice. He was cremated and no services were held though a celebration of life was held for him on Saturday, April 21 in Ft. Bragg.

Dave Showalter was a regular customer at the Fun Zone especially last summer. He served as the "de facto" baby sitter for a large group of children of renters at the Silver Springs Motel. At times he brought as many as eight children in with him and was not only good for a couple of videos for them but a sucker for the lollipops.

Showalter's previous job before settling in as a motel owner and babysitter was as

owner and president of Premium Pacific Seafoods in Port Orford. During the "big" years at PPS in the late eighties and early nineties the company processed millions of pounds of sea urchins each year at its processing plant at the dock. He was the biggest employer in Port Orford with up to 95 employees.

One of the unique things about working for PPS is that they used to feed their employees lunch. The town hasn't been the same since the urchin boom ran out as many of its employees were forced to move from Port Orford and find work elsewhere. Showalter later sold the company to a group of divers known as the Blue water Harvesters Cooperative.

Dave Showalter was well liked and many of us were shocked by his death and will miss him more than he probably would have realized. He loved Port Orford and had many friends here including me. We'll miss you, Dave.

### Tools For Caregiving

"Taking Care of You - Powerful Tools for Caregiving" is a class designed for family caregivers. If you are caring for an older person with a chronic disease and are interested in learning some tools to help you in your caregiving role, take this class! It will help you thrive as a caregiver, not just survive.

This class has been developed by Legacy Caregiver Services and is funded in part by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Northwest Health Foundation, and Good Samaritan Foundation. There is no charge for the class.

This class is a six-week series running from May 10 and going through June 14 from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm. It will be offered at Oregon State Extension, Gold Beach Fairgrounds. However, you must register by calling Shirley Cramer or Pat Case 247-9103 as class space is limited.

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## A While Ago . . .

By Jane Cramer

A while ago I mentioned to Pat Lee that Cape Blanco was heavily forested when the lighthouse was built. I had read that the trees were pushed over the edge of the cliff and burned on the beach because Sitka spruce was considered a worthless wood.

Pat advised me that Sitka spruce was valued during World War I when it was used to build airplanes. She loaned me a fascinating old book, *"The History of the Spruce Production Division, United States Army and United State Spruce Production Corporation."*

The Spruce Division consisted of 30,000 officers and men and stretched from the Straits of Juan de Fuca to the Oregon – California border in a 50-mile wide ribbon. Coos Bay District extended from Lakeside to the California border and had 31 officers and 839 men. One officer asserted that the trees must have been early fugitives from justice since they were located in the remotest, most inaccessible parts of the coast.

Before 1917 spruce had never been a desirable commercial timber because of its low value and the light demand for spruce lumber.

Airplanes needed wood that was tough and light; stout and strong but not brittle; straight grained and flawless and that would not splinter from the impact of a

bullet. Sitka spruce met all of these demands. It is the largest of the spruce family with trees up to 200' high and 15' in diameter and is abundant on the west slope of the Coast Range of Oregon and Washington. It thrives on fog and rain from the ocean.

In 1917 production of spruce for aircraft was one of the greatest unsolved problems of the war. Successful termination of the war depended on an immediate and very great increase on production of lumber suitable for aircraft.

The average spruce log was 4' in diameter and must be 22' long to be useful for aircraft lumber. That size would weigh 6½ tons. The Division's goal of 10 million feet of aircraft lumber per month meant that 192,000 tons had to be transported for an average distance of 20 miles through mountains without even ordinary wagon roads.

To avoid having horses haul whole logs over the wild terrain to roads with waiting trucks, they decided to use a process of riving (splitting) spruce logs into four nearly equal pieces. Riving was done with wedges, mauls, a Hercules jack and perspiration. Although riving was expensive and wasteful it was justified as war measure. Logs rived in mid-winter ended up in planes that flew in July against von Hindenburg.

Next time we walk the trails at Cape Blanco through remnants of Sitka spruce

Port Orford Community Theater  
Presents

## Zorro's Back In Town

A short play by Tim Kelley

*"A thrilling page torn  
from the history book of  
Old New Mexico."*

(only the facts have been ignored  
to make it more interesting.)

**May 4, 7:00 p.m.**

**May 5, Noon**

**May 6, 2:00 p.m.**

**Port Orford  
Community Center**

Tickets \$5.00

Under 12 yrs \$2.50

forest it will be good to remember the part these great trees played in winning a war a while ago.

## Letter to the Editor,

I would like to take a moment to publicly thank one of the many "Good neighbors" in our community. That neighbor is Randy Foster. Back on April 12 my wife was in a hurry to get home. Soon after arriving home we received a phone call from Randy. He had found my wife's wallet on the highway. In her rush, she must have accidentally left her wallet on the top of the car. She had a large sum of money in the wallet. Randy saw that same sum of money flying down the highway as well. Randy chased the money from Highway 101 (in front of Ray's) past 14th St.! Thanks to Randy Foster we got all of our money back! Every dollar!

Again thank you Randy Foster!

Joel Hensley  
Port Orford, OR



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### Alcohol Awareness Month

Narconon of Oklahoma urges national focus on Alcohol abuse, one of the main causes of, teenage rape, adolescent promiscuity and violence, among America's youth, during Alcohol Awareness month.

"No one is more exposed and at risk to alcohol than children, and as these statistics show, they are just as prone to problems as adults", Narconon Drug Education Specialist, Luke Canton said.

Studies from the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University and SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) shows that:

- \* Teenage girls who drink heavily are five times more likely to engage in sexual intercourse and a third less likely to use condoms. This can result in the transmission of diseases as well as pregnancy.
- \* Alcohol is involved in approximately two-thirds of all sexual assaults and date rapes among adolescents and college students.
- \* 8th grade girls who drink alcohol are three times more likely to attempt suicide than those who don't.
- \* 76% of young men are reported as being current drinkers.
- \* Girls who are sexually abused are twice as likely to develop drinking problems later.

The above statistics are cause enough for alarm but when you figure in that premature deaths resulting from alcohol and/or drugs total more than 132,000 per year with nearly 3/4's of these deaths were from alcohol alone with many of these deaths being people between the ages of 20 to 40; Over 28 million children in the U.S. have one or more alcoholic parents.

In recognition of "Alcohol Awareness Month," The Narconon organization has released an editorial series free to the public entitled the Mechanics and Life Cycle of Addiction. This 5 part series has been printed in hundreds of newspapers nationally. It is a common sense explanation of addiction and how to identify and treat it successfully. Free copies of this addiction series are available. If you would like to obtain this series please write to Narconon Chilocco at 1000 West Judo Road, Newkirk, Oklahoma 74647.

Narconon is a worldwide drug and alcohol rehabilitation and education program with the one of the nation's highest success rates. Narconon utilizes the successful drug and alcohol rehabilitation and education methods researched and developed by American author and humanitarian L. Ron Hubbard. Narconon's educational web sites ([www.stopaddiction.com](http://www.stopaddiction.com)) receive over one million visitors per month. These sites are full of helpful information on various drugs and substance abuse.

### Mentoring Center Program

The Curry Prevention Services Mentoring Center, which opened in August, 2000, has added a new Family Friends program. Similar in many ways to the youth mentoring outreach, Family Friends offers families a different perspective on life through a trusting relationship. "It's all about role modeling and trust," says CPSS Director Michele Laird. "Families sometimes need a friend to just come along side, someone to talk to who they admire and respect."

The Family Friends program fits very well with the services that the Mentoring Center already provides. Both children and parents benefit from the relationship that develops between a caring adult and each member of the family. Often difficult issues can be solved just by having an outside ear to listen and another set of eyes to see through. Topics like parenting, boundaries, respect and peer pressure can gain new meaning when viewed through the eyes of someone who's been there before. Laird adds, "The trust that develops can empower a family to grow together and help one another."

The Mentoring Center is recruiting for Family Friends volunteers who are willing to commit a minimum of one hour per week to a family in Curry County. Anyone interested should call the Mentoring Center at 541-247-2412.



## Letter to the Editor,

There have been so many questions and so many people talking about the newly formed parents group, Parents for a Better Education, that I would like to publicly give a up date to what we are doing:

The first meeting was held the beginning of April with approximately 20 parents attending. It was a night of wonderful discussion by parents wanting a better education for their children. Out of this meeting it ,vas found that we really have two groups. One that is looking in to the options of home schooling and one group that would like to better the public school system. Parents found that they had interest in one group or the other, many found that they wanted to work with both groups. The following meeting was held to address our issues that we had with the public schools. A letter was drafted and presented to the school board, next our group is planning can attending the schools workshop in May. April 23rd was the next meeting for the home schooling group, this group plans on meeting every two weeks. If you would like up-dates or meeting information please contact me:

Cecil Ashdown  
P.O. Box 923  
Port Orford, OR 97465  
ashdown@harborside.com

## National Immunization Week

The Curry County Health Department has partnered with McDonald's, Merck, and Wyeth-Lederle Pharmaceutical Companies to celebrate National Immunization Week! This week (April 23-27) the Health Department will give a small toy and a coupon for a free McDonald's cookie to each brave child who receives a shot! This promotion is designed to reward Curry County youngsters who receive their slots and to encourage parents to keep their children's immunizations up-to-date.



# Savoy Theatre

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savoy@harborside.com

## OH BROTHER WHERE ART THOU?

Rated PG-13

**FRIDAY** ..... 7 pm

**SATURDAY** ..... 4 & 7 pm

**SUNDAY** ..... 4 & 7 pm

**MON - THUR** ..... 7 pm

Children need 80 percent of their vaccinations in. the first 2 years of life to protect them against disease, disability, and even death. There have been many innovations in immunizations since the first vaccination was administered over 200 years ago, and more continue to be made. These innovations help to reduce the number of vaccine-preventable diseases, disabilities, and deaths. Of utmost importance is the fact that the benefits of vaccinations far outweigh the risks.

Infant immunization is a simple; and inexpensive way to protect children from 11 potentially deadly infectious diseases. In Curry County, childhood immunization rates fall below state and national rates. "We must keep working to increase our immunization rates and take proper care of our children," says Kathie Wills, Immunization Coordinator. "Vaccines have been proven to be safe and effective and to provide the best protection against infectious disease.. We want to continue to make sure that all children are immunized."

For more information about immunizations and clinic times, please call the Curry County. Health Department in Port Orford at 332-4041.

## Library News

**By Tobe Porter, Library Director**

Wowser! It was a great film and if you missed the incredible documentary, "Rachel's Daughters" last week, you owe it to yourself to mark your calendar for the second showing on Saturday, May 5th at 3:00pm in the Langlois Fire Hall.

The Oscar award winning team who made this 2-hour film pulled together an amazing team of investigators - women who are breast cancer victims and survivors. These women search for the causes of breast cancer, looking at environment and heredity through interviews with some of the top researchers in the county. It is a stunning and moving quest for education about a growing epidemic. It is very powerful and empowering. I encourage women and men to see this film, you will be glad you did.

This program is sponsored by the Langlois and Port Orford Public Libraries and Curry County Public Health. An afternoon tea of savory and sweet treats will be available, there is no admission charge.

# **STRONG and HEALTHY: A Women's Way!**

## **FREE Women's Health Screening Day!**

- FREE** Cholesterol and glucose (diabetes) test\*
- FREE** PAP and clinical breast exam with appointment
- FREE** Colorectal Cancer screenings
- FREE** Skin Cancer check
- FREE** Diabetes foot check
- FREE** Exercise & diet counseling
- FREE** At-risk check list for osteoporosis
- FREE** Info on mammography
- FREE** Blood Pressure tested



### **FREE Refreshments**

**Wednesday, May 9, 2001 • 9:00a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Curry Family Medical, Port Orford**

(appointments necessary for PAP exams)

Dorothy Dutton NP., CNM will also be assisting CFM staff with exams

Sponsored by Curry Family Medical & North Curry Community Health Grant

\*It is recommended that no food or liquid (except water) be consumed during the 2 hour period prior to taking the glucose test.

### **Forest Service Field Trip**

The Powers Ranger District, represented by Ruth Esperance, Carl Linderman, and Max Yeager, hosted a field trip to the proposed Milther timber sale; located in the southern portion of the Elk River Watershed. The trip was also attended by two Forest Service employees from Grant's Pass, three representatives of regional timber companies, two employees of U.S. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife; who made the trip down from Portland just for this presentation, and several local citizens and representatives of the Friends of the Elk River.

The proposed sale includes ten separate stands of timber, totaling approximately 300 acres. The stated initiative of this sale is to increase nesting habitat for the Marbled Murrelet, a robin-sized bird on the Endangered Species List. All ten stands are within one-half mile of occupied Murrelet habitat, but at this point, are unsuitable as habitat because lateral

branches on the trees are not large enough for nesting. By thinning the stands, larger lateral branches will develop.

Helicopters will be used to remove approx. 90% of the trees being cut. This will prevent the necessity of building roads into the area. On one quarter of the sale acreage, 25-30% of the timber volume will be cut; on the remaining three quarters, approx. 40%. The estimated harvest from the sale is 2 million board feet.

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### **Do You Play Chess?**

Come on down to the City Council Chambers any Saturday between 1pm and 5pm. All ages and skill levels are welcomed.

There is no fee, and there are spare chess sets if you don't have one. We have about 8 players now and are very eager to see new players.

### **Roaring Sea Open House**

Everyone is invited to enjoy the featured artists and musicians at the Last-Sunday-of-the-Month Open House at Roaring Sea Arts, 41687 Highway 101 South, Port Orford, from 2:00 to 5:00 on Sunday, April 29. Artists featured this month are Tammy Delaney, watercolor artist of Gold Beach; Larry Dildine, also of Gold Beach, showing functional ceramics; and two Port Orford artists: Becky Flake, with unique handmade cards and booklets that incorporate her nature photographs and her poetic messages; and Kati Torbet, showing her naturalist watercolors.

There will be three informal music performances during the afternoon, featuring the Kammeroque Ensemble.

Come share the entertainment, refreshments, and potluck snacks. Anyone with a taste for art, music and food is welcomed. If you have questions, please call Donna at 332-4444.



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**Letter to the Editor,**

The Sheriff's Levy is being referred to as the "Public Safety Levy". To help clarify any confusion, the official ballot title of his proposed levy is: "Five Year Local Option Tax For Enhanced Sheriff Patrol Services." At Sheriff Owens' recent Port Orford town meeting, he told us he has six deputies. Lt. Boice estimated there are also six State Police working in Curry County. State Police patrol highways, investigate crimes, can provide lab analysis for other law enforcement agencies, and protect fish and wildlife.

Owens said our "county's financial picture is very grim," and, "our county is broke." When Richard AuFranc stated that there wouldn't be any reason why, under dire economic conditions, that the Commissioners couldn't reduce general fund money, Owens responded, "The Commissioners can do that". Mr. AuFranc (who has served on the Budget

Committee) said he felt that if necessary, that might be done. Owens replied, "They could cut six deputies", adding, "The Commissioners are committed not to do that." I appreciate the Commissioners commitment and Owens' confidence. Unfortunately, unforeseen circumstances can occur when a government entity is "broke."

Please think about this before voting: Owens is asking taxpayers for a five year tax for six additional deputies while acknowledging the possibility that six deputies could be cut. Despite all the good intentions, his plan could actually be rather unpredictable. It appears that the only real guarantee folks could have if the Sheriff's Levy is passed is paying yet another tax. Sincerely,

Cheryl Douglass

**Letter to the Editor,**

The only thing the so called "Public Safety Tax Levy" guarantees is that our taxes will go up!

The proposed tax levy assures us that the county will have six deputies, one sergeant, one detective, five new and used police cars, and various supplies and equipment.

That's it!

The "nearly \$800,000" balance of the sheriffs department budget is funded out of the General Fund controlled by the County Commissioners. At the public meeting held in Port Orford April 16th, Sheriff Owens said the Commissioners "could cut six positions." With the current and forecast future budget shortages and the current Teamster Union negotiations the sheriffs department budget will take a funding and/or a staffing hit, maybe not this year but sometime in the next five. When I served on the Curry County Budget Committee, we did just that because we didn't have enough money in the General Fund.

So much for "public safety!"

The County Commissioners must look at all of the current spending and revenue sources and decide which must be kept and which must be cut. Until they have done that, no special levy's should be approved by the voters, whether for "public safety" or for "animal shelter."

I recommend a "no" vote on May 15th!

Respectfully submitted,

Richard E. AuFranc



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### DEQ Workshop

The Port Orford City Council will hold a workshop on Wednesday, May 2, 2001 at 1:00 p.m. with representatives from DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) to discuss the sewer moratorium that DEQ has placed on connections to the city's sewer system.

The City of Port Orford Wastewater Treatment System is under the regulatory authority of DEQ, who is responsible for managing the proper disposal of hazardous and solid wastes in the state of Oregon. The City is currently operating its wastewater treatment plant under a Mutual Agreement and Order with DEQ.

The workshop is an ideal opportunity for landowners, business owners, real estate representatives, and citizens to learn about the sewer moratorium and the status of the sewer disposal project. There will be an opportunity for citizens to ask questions related to the sewer moratorium and comment on the moratorium's impact on the Port Orford community.

If you are unable to attend, you may submit written concerns which will be presented at the workshop. Written corre-

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spondence can be addressed to: City of Port Orford, PO Box 310, Port Orford, OR 97465, fax: 541-332-3830, or e-mail: [portorfordcityh.@harborside.com](mailto:portorfordcityh.@harborside.com). Please be sure to include your name, phone number, and mailing address to receive a written response to your comments. Requests must be received by Monday, April 30, 2001. (Anonymous or unsigned correspondence will not be accepted.)

Further information may be obtained from the City Administrator at 332-3681 or the address listed above.

## Bargain Of The Month

16 lb Bags of  
**Weed & Feed  
Lawn  
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### Letter to the Editor,

To the People of Port Orford We would like to thank everyone who was there for Dolores "Shorty" Purdy during her battle with cancer.

She always spoke very highly of her friends and her "support group" who gave her so much strength and love.

She was a wife, mother, grandmother, friend and a bright and joyful light in all of our lives.

We are so grateful for your continued support. Love,

The Purdy Family

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*Small engine repair now available*

## Letter to the Editor,

I have been repeatedly asked if the Sheriff's levy passes will there be further cuts from the Sheriff's regular budget. No, in fact we have not cut the Sheriff's budget this year. We added in \$50,000 for Search & Rescue on federal forestlands.

This levy was never intended to be a way to bring more money to any other County department except the Sheriff. If the people vote for the levy they will be making a statement that they believe that 24-hour coverage in all parts of the county, cities and outlying areas, is important to them. My commitment is to address the will of the people. From comments my fellow commissioners have made, they feel the same way.

The county budget is balanced. The levy will be an additional out side fund to pay for 6 more deputies for 24 hour, 7 days a week coverage that the present funding does not cover. I for one have no intention of putting the people at a further public safety risk by cutting deputies. These deputies are not for traffic control but for responding to life threatening situations, car accidents, domestic violence, robberies and the like. The citizens are at risk without this levy.

The purpose of this levy is for additional coverage, not to back fill the general fund.

Please "vote" yes on the Sheriff's levy. Vote for 24 hours coverage for all parts of the county. Sincerely,

Lucie La Bonté  
Curry County Commissioner

## Gun Club News By Bill Oleson

Trap shooters, in what was one of our best turnouts, broke targets in calm weather last Sunday. We welcomed John Kreuger back to Oregon from his business in Sweden, Germany and Switzerland. Thirteen year old Sharon Nelson, Coos Bay, had an excellent practice under the guidance

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of her father, Larry Nelson.

Despite the breakdown of one of our expensive automatic traps, scores were almost exceptional. Robert McKenzie III won the 16 yard singles event with a score of 48/50. By winning he was also awarded a gift certificate from Bartlett's Restaurant, compliments from Ron Culbertson. Ron's doughnuts get us going on our Sunday meets. Runner ups to Robert with 47/50 scores were: Jim Patridge, Bandon; John Kreuger, Myrtle Point; Herb Hooker (retired police chief, Gold Beach); and George Millen, Coos Bay.

The handicap program was won by Herb Hooker with a score of 49/50. Jim Patridge was runnerup 47/50. It was about time that we had some respectable handicap scores. Herb also won a gift certificate.

Many of our local trapshooters will travel to Crescent City this coming weekend to participate in a two-day Pacific International Association trap shoot. Scores from this meet as well as scores from participating locals who traveled to Walla Walla will be given next time.

## Student Achievement

Starla Clayton has been notified that she has been admitted with honors to Southern Oregon University in Ashland. Salutatorian of her Pacific High class, Clayton plans to study criminology and law enforcement in the fall.

Amanda Hughes was also named as the recipient of a scholarship at Western Oregon University where she plans to pursue a degree in education. Erica Longton was recently presented with the Dean's Scholarship from Western Baptist College in Salem as well as an additional church scholarship. Longton will enroll in the fall and anticipates majoring in education.

Jessica James and Joel Foster, juniors at Pacific, have been selected by the Port Orford Rotary to attend Camp Royal in the summer. Camp Royal is on the McKenzie River at the site of the acclaimed United States Basketball Academy and will entertain 150 delegates from throughout Oregon. The objective is to reward outstanding youth by recognizing them as leaders and offering them incentives to further their leadership ability.

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## SERVICES

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### JOHN B. HOUSER,

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## REAL ESTATE & RENTALS

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## GARAGE SALES

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### GARAGE SALE

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### MOTHER'S DAY

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is doing its best to keep regular hours. We aren't always able to do so due to family health problems. My sincere apologies for the inconveniences. 332-0445 work and messages; 332-8265 evenings.

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Sturdy, solid wood rectangle dining table with six chairs and two leaves. \$350. 332-1304.

*Continued on next page*

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### Classified Ads

Continued from previous page

**FOR SALE:** 5 piece sectional sofa both ends are recliners. 332-8630 to see.

**4 MILE DELI NOW OPEN** 10-4 daily next to the Game Park. Great subs, big burritos, homemade chili, dogs & delicious desserts. Large portions, low prices. 347-8201. Mention this ad for \$1.00 off.

**JUST ARRIVED** at the Shell Shack, Greek Fisherman's Hats in new colors of brown, gray and navy. Buy early for good size selection. Perfect to tuck away for Father's Day.

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**NEW MOVIES THIS WEEK** include: Sean Connery's latest, "Finding Forrester", "Little Nicky", "Runaway", "Flamingo Rising", "Tales of the Plains", and the DVD version of "Ben Hur". Please remember items are due back by 3:30pm the next business day. For videotapes, DVD's, Sony Playstation, or Nintendo games come on down to The Downtown Fun Zone. Open 9:30-6 Mon-Thurs and 9:30-7 Friday and Saturday. Closed Sundays.

**STOP!** Lots to see at L&R Variety, 3,000 sq. ft. Used - old & new. Spices, tools, beads, household and gift items, books, collectables, too much to list. 10:00am - 5:00pm, 1819 Oregon St., Port Orford.

### Letter to the Editor,

Curry County elected dignitaries must think that taxpaying citizens have bottomless pots of coffee.

Time and again, they try and dupe us by suggesting a new tax or levy and invariably they claim: "it will not hurt, since you just own a cheap shanty anyway, all you will give up will be the daily cup of coffee."

Reflecting on the recent history of taxation in Curry we remember the library coming and taking a cup (right after SWOCC took our steaks), then the fire department, then the hospital and a few others. Only yesterday we hear that a coffee cup went to the dogs.

Though this last one is being touted by its perpetrators as a "user fee" and not a tax, it is inflicted on the responsible sector of pet owners, those who do license their dogs and who are least likely to need the County pound, therefore it is a TAX!

Now here comes the Sheriff, deeming we still have a cup left. He wishes to transfer our "last cup" to some new teamsters he wishes to hire.

Vote against the Sheriff levy. Have the Commissioners prioritize their budget and give the Sheriff his needs to run his department rather than make it easy on them by imposing a levy (which will never go away) and continue to enjoy the slush funds created by the moneys they wrest from us.

Vote no on the Sheriff Levy!

Henry Lustig

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## Charges Fly at Port Meeting Continued from Front Cover

Leesa Cobb began the discussion about the two person committee (the other member is Scott Macdonald) to determine why was Billy Potter fired. Cobb said the committee started with the question why was Potter fired. She said the answer they found was that Potter wasn't fired because of anything related to job performance but because commissioner Darnell made a call to the manager which was related to Billy Potter being fired.

Cobb asked the question if it was legal and handled within guideline and Macdonald answered yes. The answer to the question of can a manager fire Potter was yes. Cobb asked the question would the commission support the manager or rehire Potter. Cobb then made a motion to reinstate Billy Potter to his previous position. The motion died for lack of a second. Billy Potter then told the commission, "I'll see you guys in court."

Next up on the agenda but not listed on it was the job description for port manager. The commission will hold a workshop meeting on Thursday, April 26, 5:00pm, to work on a job description.

Mike Nielson told the commission the lease with Norcal (a fish buyer) has been signed. The lease is for 2,000 square feet of dock space. Nielson said they would like a product hoist but cannot accommodate one at this point. Leesa Cobb said she was confused because before the commission had always approved leases. Nielson told her this was not a new issue and that port attorney Randal Tosh had been working on this lease since last spring. Nielson said the lease with Norcal was for one year and that it was a management issue. He said leases of 5 years or more in duration would come before the commission. Nielson said Norcal wouldn't drag their feet and that the lease becomes effective on May 1.

Chris Hawthorne made a motion to pay the bills as funds become available and it passed unanimously.

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## Police Log

### Monday, April 16

12:30pm: Information of theft at Coos Curry Supply - info taken.

2:30pm: Suspicious vehicle at Driftwood - contacted registered owner, handled by contact.

6:00pm: Assisted Port Orford Ambulance at 175 19th St.

### Tuesday, April 17

11:20am: pressurized cylinder found on beach at Battle Rock-referred to OSP.

### Wednesday, April 18

8:10am: Report of man in women's restroom at Nesika Beach rest stop - referred to CCSO.

8:30am: Suspicious person at City Hail - person contacted, handled by contact.

9:30am: Report of phone harassment - report taken.

3:30pm: Report of motor home with ladder/step out into bike lane - referred to OSP.

### Thursday, April 19

9:45am: Report of motor homes parked across car parking spaces at Battle Rock Wayside info given to City.

5:00pm: Unwanted person at Curry Family Medical - person left when told to.

### Friday, April 20

12:10am: Motor vehicle crash minor damage at Circle K - report made.

### Saturday, April 21

12:33am: Disturbance at Battle Rock Motel, room #7, marital dispute - handled by contact, assisted by CCSO and OSP.

6:48pm: Report of man running down Washington St. yelling and cussing, intoxicated - contacted at Jackson and 7th, handled by contact.

7:45pm: Report of man laying along side road at MP-299 - referred to OSP.

9:17pm: Report of assault at Community Center - suspect gone on arrival, report taken.

### Safety tip of the week

It's motor home season, allow extra time to reach your destination cool and calm.

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