

Port Orford *Today!*

Port Orford's only locally owned and operated newspaper

1250 copies distributed from Bandon to Gold Beach

Thursday, February 19, 1998

Vol. 9 Number 08

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The Downtown Fun Zone

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(Feb. 22, 1732)



Dune Erosion Continues by Evan Kramer



The Port Orford City Council held an emergency meeting on Wednesday, February 11 regarding the destruction of the drain field. Mayor Gary Doran presented a letter that had been written by city attorney Randall Tosh asking the Curry County Commissioners for a declaration of emergency. The council unanimously voted to accept the letter, have Mayor Doran sign it and forward it to the Commissioners.

The three county commissioners considered the letter on Thursday, February 12 in a special session. They approved a resolution "declaring a state of emergency within Port Orford in Curry County". The resolution and other papers dealing with the circumstances of the emergency have been sent to Governor Kitzhaber requesting that he declare a state of emergency pursuant to ORS 401.055. Commissioner Bill Roberts told me on Tuesday morning (Feb. 17) they have not heard back from the governor. Congressman Peter DeFazio also joined in the chorus and sent a letter to Governor Kitzhaber asking that the emergency aid be expedited.

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Last Thursday afternoon I was out at the dunes at high tide and watched as the last piece of the north monitoring well got hit by a wave and rolled over into the surf.

Dr. Paul Komar and Bill McDougal arrived at Agate Beach for a look at the dunes and drain field on Sunday morning. They had been hired by the City to visit the site and come up with an assessment of the situation as well as recommendations on what to do. Komar is a Professor of Oceanography at Oregon State University and earned his PHD at the Scripps Institute of Oceanography. He has been studying the Oregon shoreline since 1976. McDougal is a professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at Oregon State. They were accompanied out to the dunes and drain field by public works director Jerry McNurlin, councilors Ralph Donaldson and Bob Warring, public utilities commission member Tom Hamilton and Elaine Hamilton.

McDougal came up with one idea that hasn't been mentioned yet and that is relocating the drain field in a different place. The two men also suggested a rock revetment to slow the erosion of the dunes. By that they mean a layer of small rocks similar in size of those used on the emergency road. The rock layer or revetment would cover the dunes and protect against erosion. McDougal pointed out a prob-

lem with the rock layer being it wouldn't work if built in some places and not others. It would have to stretch a couple of thousand feet long without interruption.

Komar said we couldn't expect much sand recovery at the dunes this summer. He said the sand is moving north in the littoral cell. The northernmost point of the littoral cell is Cape Blanco. Later on the group drove up Coast Guard Hill to Flake Street for a dramatic overlook of the dunes. Bill McDougal pointed out a rip tide, which he says is the tide carrying the sand northeast away from the beach.

Speaking about the level of the ocean Komar said the El Nino effect adds one foot of height to the ocean and that the strong surge caused by very high winds can add another foot to the height of the ocean.

Komar has written a book entitled "The Northwest Coast: Living with the Shores of Oregon and Washington". It is published by the Duke University Press and is just now available in bookstores.

Komar and McDougal will jointly write a letter with their assessment of the situation and recommendations and send it to the city this week.

Continued on Back Cover

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

Date	Sun				Moon				Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Phase
	Midnight to Noon	Noon to Midnight											
Thu Feb 19	4:44a 6.7 11:54a	1.9 6:14p 4.8 11:04p	3.5 7:07a	5:55p	1:48a	11:41a	3Q						
Fri Feb 20	5:38a 6.7 1:02p	1.5 7:40p 4.9	7:05a	5:56p	2:43a	12:23p							
Sat Feb 21	12:15a 3.8 6:39a	6.9 2:03p 1.0 8:47p	5.2 7:04a	5:58p	3:37a	1:11p							
Sun Feb 22	1:30a 3.8 7:40a	7.2 2:55p 0.4 9:37p	5.7 7:02a	5:59p	4:27a	2:05p							
Mon Feb 23	2:34a 3.5 8:37a	7.6 3:42p -0.2 10:19p	6.2 7:00a	6:00p	5:15a	3:06p							
Tue Feb 24	3:30a 3.1 9:30a	8.0 4:25p -0.7 10:57p	6.7 6:59a	6:02p	5:59a	4:15p							
Wed Feb 25	4:20a 2.5 10:21a	8.3 5:07p -0.9 11:35p	7.1 6:57a	6:03p	6:40a	5:24p							
Thu Feb 26	5:09a 1.9 11:10a	8.4 5:48p -1.0	6:56a	6:04p	7:18a	6:34p	NM						

Wayfinder Site Groundbreaking Article by Evan Kramer

A progress schedule for the Wayfinder Site at Battle Rock Park was handed out Thursday night at the Community Resource Team meeting. A groundbreaking ceremony at the park will be held at noon on Wednesday, February 18. Construction will continue through April with landscaping and cleanup set to be completed by May 18. The Carey Corporation is the general contractor for the job.

The planning team from SMH Architects presented a set of plans for the Highway 101 Beautification Plan at the meeting. Some of the proposed streetscape improvements include the Central Wetland Greenway between 16th and 17th Streets on 101. This would include bump-outs on both sides of the street with marked crosswalks. The bump-outs would make the walk across the street shorter for pedestrians. The planning team described what they presented as a "work in

progress". Another drawing presented was the Tichenor Avenue Greenway. It included the three blocks between 8th and 11th Streets where a twenty-foot wide alley runs between Highway 101 and Washington Streets. They showed a pedestrian pathway with many planted areas. There was little support for this idea.

CRT beautification member Bonnie Allen explained the initial idea for this project began with three things in mind. They are safety, slowing traffic down and planting trees.

The designers of the plan will look at the "street furniture system" which includes street lighting, benches and trash receptacles as an alternative to plantings.

Other drawings showed center divider planted areas, one being between 12th and 13th Street in front of Driftwood Elementary. This would cause the elimination of parking in front of Driftwood and was met with much opposition.

Many changes for the intersection at Highway 101, Washington Street and Harbor Drive were shown in the drawing for that part of town including a center planted area and bumpouts and increased parking in the traffic triangle in front of the liquor store. There was concern expressed with the bumpouts and loss of parking caused by them.

The question was asked who would decide to go ahead with part or this entire plan and the answer was the town would decide. It was suggested a written plan be put together and given to every business on Highway 101 for them to study.

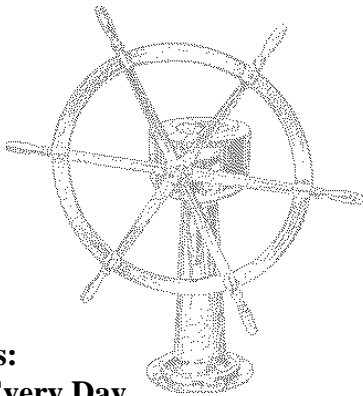
One idea suggested by Frank Cramer and second by Carol Malley was to slow traffic down on Highway 101 by reducing it to two lanes of traffic, two lanes of existing parking and use the middle two lanes for left turn lanes.

Continued on next page

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Weather

Rainfall provided by the City of Port Orford Public Utilities Department
Other figures recorded at The Downtown Fun Zone

Date	Temperature		Rain	High	Wind	Barometer
	High	Low		Wind	Chill	
Fri Feb 6	68	52	.12	46	29	29.64
Sat Feb 7	58	47	.73	46	24	30.04
Sun Feb 8	66	38	.07	26	30	30.39
Mon Feb 9	64	46	.31	48	21	30.12
Tue Feb 10	55	46	.71	42	26	30.33
Wed Feb 11	57	49	.36	51	28	29.97
Thu Feb 12			.71			
Fri Feb 13	66	44	.79	48	26	

Wayfinder Site Groundbreaking Continued

There will be a two-week review period and then SMH will return to the CRT meeting on Thursday, April 9 with plans that reflect the comments and suggestions that have been made. Comments need to be sent to CRT member Joan Geiser. It is important that business and property owners on Highway 101 review the drawings and attend the meeting if they want their voices heard.

Don't forget to protect your modem from surges on the phone lines!

Senior News By Mary Yoder

I'll start out with February 12 – Rotary luncheon. These are the volunteers who worked – Kay Neal, Mary Evans, Jan Dacayana, and Bessie Laurson. Setting up the dining room Dee Hanshon – doing dishes Bill Butt and Warren Jewel. Then came February 14th – Valentines Day – volunteers who made it so nice were Mary Evans, Bessie Larson, Kay Neal and a new volunteer Patrick Evans. Setting up the dining room were June Dennison, Thelma Lagace, and Peigi Stahl serving coffee etc. Dishes – Bill Butt and

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another new volunteer Owen Miller – Clare Stahl at the cash register.

The Sing Alongs with their director Glorine Godfry – sure did a great job singing. The songs were really super. I could listen to them all day. Now I was told by what's his name they have a new volunteer who works during the week for the rummage sales – I asked a lady or a man? He said a lady – her name – what you call it – now what do you think about that? Don't forget tax help every Wednesday from 9:30 to 12:30. Jane Black is helping – need help? It is there for you.

The Membership meeting is February 24th, Tuesday at 11 o'clock. Afterwards luncheon at the Pizza Parlor – see you there. There will also be a blood pressure and hearing aid check from 9:30 –12:30 on the same day.

This is Monday February 16th pinochle night – nice time was had by all. Lady's High Betty Keeler – Lady's Low Aileen Smith – Men's High E.J. Drew and Men's Low Lee Hyle.

Spring is coming, spring is coming,

Can't you hear the birds are humming?
With a joyous chirp they sing,

Now you know it's nearing spring,
All the woodland's getting green,

Many animals now are seen,
Flowers that were gently sleeping

Now are waking and upward peeping,
Spring is coming in the sky

The birds are singing and so am I.



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Letter to the Editor,

The City of Port Orford has two crises to deal with. First, the drain field used to safely dispose of treated wastewater has been rendered unusable by the fore dune erosion caused by El Nino – related storm damage. On a temporary basis we are permitted by the Oregon Economic Development Department (OEDD) to drop the waste water on the beach. Under threat of daily fines (and possible environmental damage) we must develop and fund a system to properly handle this treated wastewater.

Those same high waves are already in the process of breaching the narrowing strip of dunes that separate Garrison Lake from the ocean. While we refer to Garrison Lake as our secondary source of water, we use it not only when the water flow from Hubbard Creek is low, but in the winter as well when Hubbard Creek turbidity is high. The second crisis is to

respond to this threat to safe and secure water for users. Secure water supply and safe wastewater disposal are essential to Port Orford's future.

Our concern is about how we, the citizens of Port Orford, are going to meet these crises.

The forces of Nature are not our enemies. They are reality and we must live with them as best we can. We can work together in making choices, which like we ourselves, are less than perfect. Angry dissent can destroy not only our water and sewage systems, but those things that make life pleasant in a small town.

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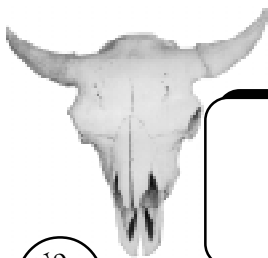
The volunteers of the Port Orford Community Ambulance and Port Orford Volunteer Fire Department invite everyone to attend an open house at the fire hall and ambulance chute on Saturday, February 21 from 2:00-5:00pm. The building is located at 19th and Idaho. There will be refreshments and door prizes. This is also a chance to tour the emergency vehicles.

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Democratic Central Committee

The Curry County Democratic Central Committee will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 25th, starting at 7pm. The meeting, to be held in the lower-level meeting room of the Courthouse Annex in Gold Beach, will be preceded by a coffee social, set to begin at 6:30. All precinct persons are urged to attend, and all Democrats are welcome. For further information, call 332-9702.

"If ignorance ever goes to \$40 a barrel, I want drillin' rights on that man's head."
—Texas Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower discussing President George Bush's policies

"If it's dangerous to talk to yourself, it's probably even dicier to listen" —Texas Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower

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Bird Identification Class

A course in learning to identify the local birds will be taught in Port Orford by Jim Rogers of the Kalmiopsis Audubon Society. A one-hour class will take place on the first Friday of each month at 7:30pm. A meeting place will be announced prior to the first class on March 6.

On the Saturday morning following each class, there will be a 2-hour field trip to one of the good birding locations in the local vicinity. The field trips will be from 10:00am to noon and will meet at Driftwood School parking lot. If the weather is too bad, they'll be postponed to Sunday.

The class will be designed for beginners, but more advanced birders will probably have a good time and perhaps increase their knowledge. The basic theme of the first class will be getting started in birding. Information on field guides, lists of local birds, binoculars, etc. will be presented, as well as pointers on how to identify a bird. A donation of \$1 per Friday evening/Saturday morning session to cover ex-

penses would be appreciated. There will be total of 10 sessions, ending in December. By then, we'll hopefully have a cadre of knowledgeable birders to help in the annual Port Orford Christmas Bird Count. The course should be of interest to kids as well as senior citizens.

For further information call Jim Rogers at 332-2555.



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Read-A-Thon

The students of Driftwood and Blanco elementary schools are gearing up to start reading. The Pacific High School chapters of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) and Student Council are again sponsoring the PHS Read-A-Thon, a community service project for the Langlois and Port Orford Public Library Foundations. What better way is there to support your local libraries than by reading?

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the Read-A-Thon, the event is one in which elementary students collect pledges from generous donors on how many books the student can read in a month. This year, students will be reading from February 23 until March 23.

The FBLA coordinators, Jamie Bussman and Amanda Kamph, and their Student Council liaison, Matthew "Buzzy"



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Nielsen, have added a new element to the 1998 PHS Read-A-Thon: "Reading Buddies." These high school students will visit the classrooms periodically throughout the month and talk to the students about the importance of reading. All in all, the reading buddies will urge their elementary proteges to read not only for the benefit of their local libraries, but for themselves as well.

Both the Langlois and Port Orford Public Libraries have formed foundations to build new libraries. Both are severely pressed for space - they must withdraw books in order to put new ones on the shelves. Pacific students are very supportive of the libraries' efforts. The senior class even donated \$150 from the Pig Bowl, held in November 1997, to the Langlois Public Library's building fund. Both FBLA and Student Council thought that the Read-A-Thon would be an appropriate fundraiser for the libraries.

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Although reading for the good of the libraries is incentive enough, the elementary students also have another goal towards which to work: the class from each school that reads the most books, will get to have a party with their reading buddies. Also, the top three readers from each class will also receive special prizes. Each school also has a goal to attain: the high school coordinators have challenged each school to read 500 books in the allotted period. The FBLA and Student Council are keeping the prize for the attainment of this goal a well-kept secret.

If you know of any Driftwood or Blanco Elementary School students, please offer to pledge them money. If you do not know any elementary students, please contact Jamie Bussman, Amanda Kamph, Matthew Nielsen, or Earlyene Pritchard at 348-2293 and they will set you up with a student who needs a pledge or answer any questions you may have.

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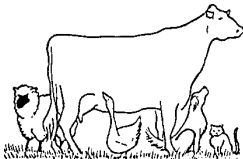
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A Good Question J. Graeme Graydon

If herbs are so good, why don't doctors use them? In the last century, a new industry appeared the chemical producers. It was a time of scientific advance. Big money saw the trend and backed it. Pasteurs' theory, that germs caused disease, launched a pharmaceutical division promising to eradicate disease. Pasteur later admitted that he was wrong but no one wants to remember that these days.

Chemical fertilizers were introduced on the basis of an incomplete theory—N.P.K., and pretty soon, along with the petrochemicals, a financial giant influenced every aspect of our lives, and we loved it. The same entities also influenced Congressmen, Senators, selected Colleges and funded research, on drugs exclusively. The people were promised a better life through chemicals. The reason chemicals were chosen for medicines is that by law,

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no one can patent a natural substance. Herbs are good for people but lousy for business.

The solution was and still is to find a medically useful plant, isolate its active ingredient, change it into an unnatural form, get the approval of the U.S. Government one way or another, promote it with heavy advertising and make lovely profits. It is hard to improve on nature. Now you know where the side effects come from.

As all this happened, medicine was, as usual, divided into two camps. One, the old fashioned, reliable, empirical system and the other which always wanted to be scientific according to the fashion of the day. There were also incredible breakthrough in Electro-medicine, ionization, magnetism and frequency treatments, MD's practiced Homeopathy and Americans went to sanatoriums for cures. The new therapies were non-invasive, gener-

ally didn't kill patients and they recognized the power of the mind, the dignity of man and unknown realms of Spirit. They were also a threat to drug profits and were powerfully opposed by the AMA and the drug giants. The drug companies published the first medical journals, promising doctors fame and wealth if they used the modern approach. Laws were passed requiring the random, double blind, study of all medicines. You can't do a double blind with Cayenne, everyone will know who got the pepper, and herbs vary in composition according to the dictates of Nature. Drugs are always the same, they are said to be "pure." Only Colleges who taught the new medicine could graduate doctors and the FDA prohibited any medical claims for herbs by classifying them as foods.

The systems that were set up to protect us and to guarantee the monopoly of the Chemical industry have denied us and our doctors from even knowing about safer, cheaper, effective treatment routinely used in other western nations. People are finding out for themselves and the drug giants are being challenged.

Herbal medicines and their essential oils never failed us, we turned our backs on them.

Does that answer your question?

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An Open Letter to the Governor

Dear Gov. Kitzhaber

Congratulations on your decision not to allow rip-rapping on our beaches, especially at the Capes. You are to be commended for your firm position, especially in view of your upcoming re-election. In keeping with your brave stance, I can assure you that you will have my vote at election time.

I can't imagine anyone with an ounce of sense, building a home on sand. Even children's fairy tales depict the evil wolf who was capable of blowing the little pig's house down because it was built on sand! The developers who instigated this decision should be sued to high heaven, not only for building on sand, but for marring our beautiful ocean shores.

I propose passing a law making it mandatory for all planning commissioners to be thoroughly educated in geology before being allowed to sit on any planning commission. That means all planning commissioners, including city, county and state boards. Here in Curry County, we have fought the indiscriminate decisions of past city and county planning commissioners who have been locked in the pock-

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CRAZY NORWEGIANS

Hwy 101, Port Orford

ets of greedy developers. The reckless desecration of our beautiful state must cease...NOW!

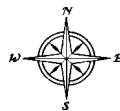
Thank you for the fine job you have been doing for Oregon, and I hope you will continue on the same path in the future.

Sincerely,

Helga Steffe
Port Orford

[Actually the wolf blew the houses away because they were built of straw and sticks. It was Jesus (Matthew 7:24-27) who warns us of building a house upon sand. "and great was its fall." Nonetheless, I heartily endorse your support of our Governor and the idea of requiring elected officials to have proper qualifications for their positions. - Valerie, Editor]

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Ancient Forest Lesson

The Ancient Forests are still not protected. Logging and mining continue to threaten our last wild places. Lou Gold, tireless and eloquent voice for preserving wild areas, is on the road again with slides and stories, to counteract the public perception that the Ancient Forests have been saved from future destruction.

Lou Gold, former professor of Political Science, left the urban life more than 15 years ago in search of wilderness solitude. His travels brought him to Southwest Oregon where he landed in the middle of a protest to stop an illegal logging road in the Siskiyou National Forest. After being jailed for the protest, Lou hiked back into the Siskiyou range to conduct a prayer vigil on Bald Mountain. He repeated his vigil for 12 consecutive summers. Lou has been taking his slides and stories to the American public for ten years. His vivid storytelling has touched enthusiastic audiences in more than 500 locations across the nation and is one of the most enduring documents of the forest protection movement. His message is one of hope and opportunity. Lou says, action is the antidote to despair.

The Kalmiopsis Audubon Society is presenting Lou Gold who will give a slide presentation with stories at Port Orford City Hall council chambers on Monday, February 23, at 7:00pm. Admission is free with donations accepted.

Lela Lawrence Retiring

Lela Lawrence is joining the ranks of the retirees as of February 27, 1998. She has

given 28 years to the 2CJ school district as an elementary secretary. Lela is known as Nana to her two grandsons. She has also been a loving grandmother and mother to children of our community for almost three decades. Students, their children and grandchildren have turned to her for answers to their 1001 questions and needs. Lela has always put the students of Driftwood first. Her compassion and deep love for children is very obvious.

Please come and help celebrate her retirement with an Open House at Driftwood Elementary School on Friday, February 26, from 1:00-3:00pm.

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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 to 5pm, February 22.

Featured February artists are Jerry Hillman, of Langlois, who will be showing his latest oil paintings; Doug and Joyce Kinney, who operate the Transactions Gallery here in Port Orford, who will show us their latest basket and fiber work; and Eden Vale Stevens, also of Port Orford, well known as a fine artist, writer and poet, who will exhibit some of her oil paintings. Some of Eden's poems will be read by Joyce Mueller during the musical performances.

Informal music performances will be presented as usual by the Kammeroque Ensemble, with guest flutist Judy Beregi, at approximately 2:15, 3:15 and 4:15.

Come share the entertainment, refreshments, and snacks – which are as usual, potluck. It's always fun, and always more fun with more people. If you have questions, call Donna at 332-4444.

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Valerie's excited! We just got a new shipment of bargain-priced CD-ROM's including Games, Education, Encyclopedias, and more priced from \$4.95 to \$39.95. Quantities of each title are limited so come in soon to get the best choice. Here is a partial list of titles:

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Cesar 1	\$7.95
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D-Day	\$6.95
Detroit	\$5.95
Gabriel Knight	\$7.95
Goblins	\$7.95
Gus goes to Cyberstone Park	\$5.95
Hoyle Bridge	\$6.95
Hoyle Childrens Collection	\$6.95
Hoyle Classic Board Games	\$6.95
Inca	\$7.95
King Quest V/VI	\$6.95/\$7.95
Land Designer	\$7.95
Liesure Suit Larry 1/6	\$5.95/\$8.95
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News Flash

News has been received that the Coast Guard barracks building at the Port Orford Heads has just been named a National Historic Site and will be listed on the National Register of Historic Sites.

This is a bulletin from the Point Orford Heritage Society who welcome your membership.

Correction

The article entitled "Commission Continues Hearing" referred to Dorothy Schweitz. Her correct name is Irene Schweitz. Her mother's name is Dorothy Settle.

Correction

Comments regarding the Highway 101 Beautification project need to be turned in by February 24 to collection envelopes at the library and post office.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Port Orford is seeking letters of application from interested persons to serve on the Port Orford Budget Committee for a term of three years. Please send you letter to: Mayor Gary A. Doran, City of Port Orford, P.O. Box 310, Port Orford, OR 97465. Applications to be received by February 27, 1998.

GARAGE SALES

MOVING SALE at 42207 Cedar Hollow Rd. in Cedar Terraces Sat., Feb. 21st from 8am until 4pm. A little bit of everything! Rain or shine.

MARCH MADNESS SALE! Benefit for the Fisherman's Memorial, March 7, 1998, 9am-3pm at the Port Orford Community Building. If you would like to donate please call Sandra at 332-7777 or drop off at Community Building March 6. Will pick-up also.

MISCELLANEOUS

DELTA 10" TABLE SAW for sale - \$200. Call Evan at 332-6565.

MARK J. FELDHAUS PRESENTS a selection of original acrylic paintings framed in driftwood, some on glass. Now being shown at the Wheelhouse Restaurant in Port Orford. In honor of Valentines Day-make me an offer! Call 332-9645 or leave a bid at the restaurant.

SALE ART SUPPLIES Artists Portfolios, Easels, Gift Items, Prisma Color Pencil Sets, FIMO, Modeling Clay, Artist Tables, etc. BASS on the Pedway, 175 Second St., Old Town Bandon, Mon.-Sat. 10am till 5:30pm. Closed Sundays.

SHROVE TUESDAY Pancake Supper. Tues. Feb. 24th, 5pm to 7pm, St. Christopher's Episcopal Church. Pancakes, ham, eggs, beverage. Adults - \$4, children under 12 years \$2.50, family \$10.

MICROWAVE and conventional oven wanted for Blanco School – used ok, in good condition. Burners not needed. Contact Pam Manning 348-2295 or Phil Sword 348-2326.

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Continued on next page

Classified Ads

Continued from previous page

CHAIRS: All chairs at the Ace of Gems are \$15 each till March 1st. Oak and walnut other deals too. 332-1701 11am to 4pm. See ya.

RENT A MOVIE. Lots of new movies this week: Cadillac Ranch, Most Wanted, The Matchmaker, Excess Baggage, Devil's Advocate with Keanu Reeves and Al Pacino, Head Above Water, Margaret's Museum, Say Anything, Normal Life, Little Witches, The Whole Wide World, Good Burger, Poison Ivy, Rodgers & Haammerstein's Cinderella, and several new to the store titles. The Downtown Fun Zone is open 9:30am till 6pm Monday thru Thursday and from 9:30 till 7pm Friday and Saturday. Closed on Sunday.

COFFEE FACT: More than 100 kinds of coffee beans are grown commercially in 59 countries throughout the tropical regions of the world. Come try a Caramello Latte at Rise n' Shine drive thru espresso truck.

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"We'll run it up the flagpole and see who salutes that booger." —Texas House Speaker Gib Lewis

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Letter to the Editor,

In response to Ms. Lindberg's letter, regarding someone feeding information to Mr. Smith. You would have put me in the other category. I am not one who is bitter. I was at one time, right after the episode, of my dismissal from the fire department. But not for the reasons that Ms. Lindberg stated in her letter.

My position was clearly stated in my letter, last spring as to the need for a Paramedic level of care, and my belief that Bay Cities Ambulance should have been chosen for the job. The need for a Paramedic level of care still exists, and when Port Orford Ambulance's temporary A.S.A. assignment ends the County Commissioners should allow the County to be bid as one A.S.A.

If this were to be done, not only would Bay Cities Ambulance bid, but several other national ambulance services would be bidding for Curry County. This would bring a paramedic level of care to this community, which it really needs, due to the increasing number of retired people moving in to the area. Our residents

should be afforded the same level of care as the rest of Curry County.

As an E.M.T.-Intermediate working with Paramedics on a daily basis, I see first hand the difference the A.C.L.S. (advanced cardiac life support) makes for all patients. This level allows all patients to get advanced care, due to the higher level of training required of all medics working on the ambulance.

My concern is and always has been for the residents of Port Orford, and providing them the highest level of care.

Sincerely,

Joanne L. Ruoff
Instructor 2 BPSST (Board on Public
Safety Standards & Training)
E.M.D. Dispatcher (BPSST)
Instructor SWOCC Fire Science Dept
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Dune Erosion Continues Continued from front cover Siphon Vault Flip Flops

Sunday afternoon at high tide ocean water surged past what was left of the dunes north of the siphon vault and flowed into the lake in several locations. The siphon vault was right side up as of 4:00pm on Sunday afternoon. Some time later that night the ocean surge flipped it completely over and as of Monday afternoon the vault was nearly buried in sand. Tuesday afternoon all that was visible was a series of pipes sticking out of the bottom, now the top. It makes you wonder how the city is going to fulfill the State Park's mandate to move the vault off the beach by March 30, 1998. I saw former public works director, Dennis Gehrke, at the dunes on Sunday morning. He told me the drain field cost approximately \$280,000 when it was built.

The Garrison Lake outlet creek has been flowing into the ocean since the twin culverts and rock road were installed by Forest Access on Thursday, February 5. However, the dune separating the creek from the ocean continues eroding to the north in a dramatic fashion and on Monday afternoon was awash in large logs.

Meanwhile, the city public works director Jerry McNurlin told me his department is ready if they have to switch over to treating North Fork Hubbard Creek water.

City of Port Orford

On Feb. 2, 1998, in response to an immediate threat to the integrity of the Port Orford wastewater treatment system, the Port Orford exercised its power under ORS.401.309 and Port Orford City Charter Chapter II, Sections 4 & 5 and Chapter III, Section 6, and adopted Resolution 98-07 declaring a state of emergency.

The particulars of the emergency are as follows: On Jan. 29, a routine inspection of the effluent drain field for the City of Port Orford wastewater system by the Public Works Department revealed that beach erosion by the Pacific Ocean was threatening an effluent holding tank and drain field. The tank had originally been one hundred and fifty feet from the mean high tide line. Dunes specialist Wilbur Turnyik was called in to inspect the drain field and advise the City as to the steps that should be taken to save the effluent tank and drain field from destruction.

On Feb. 2, 1998, the Public Works Department determined loss of the tank and drain field was imminent. An emergency session of the Port Orford City Council was called, and the City Council adopted Resolution 98-07, declaring a state of emergency. The City Council authorized the emergency expenditure of funds to prevent loss of the tank and drain field, in an amount not to exceed \$49,000. Later that day another emergency session was held, the Council entered into a contract with Forest Access to undertake the needed work.

On Feb. 3, 1998, Forest Access began work. By Feb. 6, 1998, the vault had become exposed, despite the efforts of Forest Access to save the vault by slowing the process of beach erosion. On Feb. 7, 1998, Forest Access' efforts failed completely, and the vault was destroyed. Effluent began to drain from the effluent main, flowing onto the beach and into the Pacific Ocean.

Since the drain field is the only outflow for the wastewater treatment system, effluent continues to flow onto the beach and into the Pacific Ocean, and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future, unless the City of Port Orford obtains emergency assistance. At this time, the City of Port Orford has exhausted its local resources, and the City's drinking water supply (Garrison Lake) is in imminent peril as is the remaining effluent drain field due to continuing erosion.

In light of the imminent peril posed to the City of Port Orford's drinking water supply, the City Council of the City of Port Orford also respectfully requests that the Curry County Board of Commissioners make findings that an emergency exists in the City of Port Orford, and forward those findings to the Office of the Honorable John Kitzhaber, Governor of the State of Oregon, with a request that Governor Kitzhaber declare a state of emergency pursuant to ORS 401.055.

Gary Doran, Mayor

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