

Port Orford Today!

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City Council News By Evan Kramer

The Port Orford City Council met last Thursday in their last meeting before the November 2 election. Depending on election results the council could return in the same form next January or have as many as three changes. We'll know in less than one week.

All councilors were present but Mayor Jim Auburn who was at an awards ceremony in Florence. The Mayor was presented with the 2010 Oregon Coastal Management Achievement Award for leadership by an elected official by the Oregon Coastal Management Program and the Department of Land Conservation and Development.

Boy Scout Troop 101 led off the meeting with the presentation of the flags and then Scout Leader Scott Halse gave the council and public an update on their activities and thanked assistant scout master Solomon Peabody as well as introducing the troop members. Halse has been scoutmaster for the past three years and now has seven members of Troop 101. The young men have participated in several community projects like collecting Christmas trees for turning into mulch and helping with the chili cook-off hosted by the Chamber

of Commerce. But it's not all work, and this past weekend they had scheduled a raft trip and cookout for Floras Lake.

Port Orford Volunteer Fire Department Chief Gayle Wilcox presented the council with her monthly quarterly report and said the department is always looking for new members. The department did a lot of training over the summer including working with the snap tank and water supply and developing additional water points in areas not serviced by fire hydrants.

Alexandra Richardson spoke to the council about water bills and urged that after this election is over things don't die down on the water situation. She also handed out copies of the Constitution to council members.

Police Chief Marvin Combs told the council the oral interview had gone well with Gary Rose who has applied for the police officer position and that officer Levi Escalon was doing his training at the police academy. The Chief had asked the public for comments in a recent article he wrote and said he needed to know if there were any problems.

Councilor David Smith spoke about the Masquerade Ball set for this Friday night, October 30 at the Community Building. The Chamber and the Port

Orford Heritage Society are putting on this event. There are a few tickets for the dinner/dance still available and plenty of dance only tickets for sale.

Councilor Scott Luhr asked about the recent Transient Lodging Tax meetings and when the recommended changes would take effect. They first need to have passed inspection by the city attorney. The changes if they go into effect will include matching grants for local businesses to improve their properties. Luhr updated the council on Port of Port Orford business and said the recent dredging had been successful with 24,400 cubic yards of sand removed from the harbor. Luhr continued that the Port Commission and Manager Gary Anderson were still trying to restructure the Port's \$500,000 loan with the Oregon Economic Development Department. This money was borrowed to help pay for construction of the new dock. Luhr described the loan as untenable as it balloons up to nearly \$100,000 a year by the end of the 20 years.

Councilor Bill McArdle and member of the Port Orford Watershed council asked if the city could put up a booth at next year's Water Festival explaining the city's water system. McArdle said

Continued on Page 2

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Thursday 10-28		Friday 10-29		Saturday LQtr 10-30		Sunday 10-31		Monday 11-01		Tuesday 11-02		Wednesday 11-03	
H0446	5.7	H0549	5.7	H0649	5.9	L0042	0.5	L0141	0.8	L0237	1.1	L0328	1.5
L0924	4.0	L1034	4.1	L1200	3.8	H0742	6.3	H0828	6.9	H0909	7.5	H0949	8.0
H1514	7.2	H1616	6.8	H1733	6.4	L1326	3.2	L1438	2.2	L1537	1.2	L1630	0.1
L2241	0.0	L2341	0.2			H1901	6.1	H2025	6.1	H2139	6.2	H2244	6.5

City Council News
Continued from Page 1

the watershed council wanted to bring Garrison Lake up to drinking water standards.

Councilor Luhr asked at the end of the meeting that the water system status be a continuing action item on every meeting agenda. The City of Port Orford has a drug take back program where you can turn in outdated or unwanted prescription drugs to the police department. They will be taken to the Beaver Hill landfill in Coos County and burned. Citizens were asked not to flush old prescriptions down the toilet.

Letter to the Editor,

I am distressed about the erroneous things being said about my friend, Jim Auburn. It is hurtful to a man who has devoted so much of his personal time and money to helping our town. In the week before we vote it is really important that we have the correct information.

Mr. Luhr and Ms. Clancy slandered Jim by saying Jim and his colleagues have

a hidden agenda and vote in a block. There is no secret agenda, and they know it. The City council is not trying to put something over on the public. All the goals are clearly laid out and available to our citizens. Citizens can read the agenda packets and reports available at meetings and from the city recorder, Beverly manes. Mayor Jim is always available as well to discuss your concerns and answer questions.

Ms. Clancy wasn't asked to leave the meeting for speaking the truth, she was making a travesty out of the council meetings by repeatedly interrupting, speaking out of turn, confusing the facts.

The four candidates are not a voting block, they have taken a pledge to uphold civil, responsible discourse and follow Roberts Rules of Order. Obviously they will vote independently. The last time Jim had to vote, he and Mr. Hewitt voted differently.

Another untruth is that Mr. Luhr said Jim only went to one funding source when he knows the City is in fact negotiating with multiple funding agents.

People may not realize how many personal hours Mayor Jim has voluntarily invested in our town. He is getting things done solidly for our benefit i.e., zoning, urban renewal, state support, police, ocean resources.

As you know, Jim and Karen are gracious, hospitable supporters of our many community events. He is kind, respectful and available to talk with council members and citizens. To insinuate that he is otherwise is hurtful and plain wrong. He deserves your informed vote.

A friend,

Elaine Roemen

Letter to the Editor,

Please join me in voting for Alexandra Richardson for City Council. She is dedicated to dealing with our water problems. She will bring positive energy and will get results. She is working against high water bills and high taxes.

Ava Peterson

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Letter to the Editor,

Several clear reasons to vote for Jim Auburn come from some of the other candidates. For example, Christine Richardson wants to reduce the water rates. This clearly demonstrates that she does not understand the City's current water infrastructure problem. Current materials and equipment costs, the cost for the City engineer, the regular and overtime costs for the City crews are necessary to keep the current water losses from exceeding 45 to 60%. The City crews are doing this very efficiently. This is the most effective course of action we have and it is unfortunate because it is costly. This is inherited from the past fifty years of mismanagement of the City water infrastructure by previous City administrations. The water rates were kept artificially low because no effort was made to address the water infrastructure or impoundment problems and the resultant cost therefore falls on us.

Scott Luhr has used a lot of innuendo in his statements about the current council members. He has also stated that the 2% and step increase granted to the union members of the City crews are inappropriate. But is it inappropriate when their work is keeping the City afloat while Jim, others in the Council and the City Administrator seek ways to rebuild the infrastructure and impoundment through grants? It is the

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Port Orford Public Library

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These free programs are sponsored by the Port Orford and Langlois Public Libraries, working together to bring quality programs to the communities they serve.

actions of the City crews under the direction of Jim Auburn and our City Council members which are protecting the residents' and business owners' investments. Scott also sees this as important, so what's he actually saying? Does it make sense or is he grabbing at straws just to be mayor?

Caroline Clancy has made a big noise about the right of way (ROW) granted by the City Council to the Hawthorne Restaurant. The area beside the Fun Zone and Crazy Norwegian used for parking are also ROWs. What's the difference? Where was all of the out-cry and rancor about that? There was none.

In last week's letter, Ms. Clancy stated that she discussed the matter of size of the new treatment plant with DEQ and that it exceeded current needs for the City. She has not presented such a feasibility study or letter by DEQ affirming this, or a feasibility study from the City engineer, or other engineers to back up her assertions that the treatment plant is a wasteful expenditure. She just espouses her unproductive hostility.

Milton Finch has also offered no suggestions about improving

the impoundment area and water infrastructure system, was against the library and the Hawthorne Red Fish Restaurant and Gallery.

The important thing is don't pull the wool over your own eyes in this important mid-term election. Stay on point. Our new police dept is excellent and has integrated well with our volunteer City emergency services. The City system is functioning better than ever. Don't let the divisiveness at the local and national levels affect your local view. Jim Auburn is protecting your investments, your businesses and homes. This is a very good man. Vote Auburn mayor, John Hewitt, Tim Pogwizd and Diane Schofield for City Council.

Thank You,

John Roorbach

November Blood Drive

The Red Cross will hold a blood drive on Nov. 2 from Noon to 6:00pm at the Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 355 Oregon Ave, Bandon. Please call 1-800-448-3543 to schedule a donation appointment.



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Letter to the Editor,

Given strong local interest in Art Robinson's campaign to represent us in the U.S. Congress, I would like to comment on one aspect of Robinson's public persona—that of public spokesman on scientific and technical issues. In this role, he clearly prides himself on his ability to identify and explain technical positions that differ from those of mainstream scientific organizations. As it happens, I was at Caltech at the same time as Art Robinson, was also a chemistry major, and, like Robinson, went on to receive a Ph.D. in chemistry after I graduated. Hence, I feel qualified to evaluate some of Robinson's maverick positions on technical issues. Since we all live in a seaside community and have a shared interest in the health of the oceans, I will focus, as a specific example, on Robinson's much publicized stance that high-level radioactive wastes could be safely dispersed in the ocean (for a fuller statement of his position and to find the source of my quotations, see <http://www.artrobinsonforcongress.com/ArtRobinsonOnTheIssuesDetails.html>, Robinson's main campaign website)."

Robinson compares the problem of disposing high-level nuclear wastes with that of disposing of "1,000 pounds of ordinary table salt that has become dirty or otherwise undesirable." This analogy is unhelpful in envisioning the behavior

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of radioactive waste in the oceans. The oceans are full of dissolved salt (primarily sodium chloride, "ordinary table salt") because this mineral is freely soluble in water. It has been washed out of rocks and soil over geological time by rainwater, and much of it has ended up in the oceans. While it is a major component of body fluids (the reason that blood tastes salty) sodium chloride is not concentrated in biological tissues: indeed, a main function of our kidneys is to excrete excess dietary salt. Unfortunately, the chemicals that comprise the most dangerous radioactive wastes are not soluble in water and, rather than dispersing uniformly in sea water, aggregate by a variety of physical processes. Then, just as lead accumulates in biological tissues, many of the heavy metals in radioactive wastes released into the environment concentrate in living organisms and enter the food chain. Subsequent effects are unpredictable, as illustrated by the analogous behavior of the insecticide DDT, which ultimately worked its way up the food chain at toxic levels through fish and into human milk and the ovaries of eagles. Art Robinson wishes the world were a simpler place than it is and more hospitable to his utopian ideas. Unfortunately, the complexities are real. We should beware of public figures who suggest otherwise.

Maynard Olson

Parks Commission Opening

There is one vacancy on the Parks Commission. The Parks Commission is vital to the quality of life in our city. This is an opportunity to contribute to your community in a meaningful way. Interested parties wishing to serve are urged to apply.

For information on the Parks Commission and their duties please look on the website at www.portorford.org under Municipal Code, Chapter 2.16 and 2.12, or the Municipal Code book in the library.

Applications may be obtained at City Hall, 555 W. 20th, Port Orford, OR 97465, or via e-mail from bev@portorford.org, and returned in person, via e-mail or to PO Box 310, Port Orford, OR 97465, Attn: Mayor Auburn.

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Scottish Fiddle Concert

Fiddler Hanneke Cassel and The McKassons will be returning to the southern Oregon coast for an evening of contemporary Scottish fiddle music. The Sprague Theater will host this event on Thursday, November 4 at 7:30pm. "Exuberant and rhythmic, somehow both wild and innocent, delivered with captivating melodic clarity and an irresistible playfulness," says the Boston Globe about Hanneke Cassel's playing. Such charismatic fiddling has brought the native of Port Orford, OR many honors and awards. She is the 1997 U.S. National Scottish Fiddle Champion, she holds a Bachelors of Music in Violin Performance from Berklee College of Music, and she has performed and taught across North America, Europe, New Zealand, Australia, China, and Africa. She creates sounds on the cutting edge of the acoustic tradition, while retaining the integrity and soul of traditional Scottish music.

United by their affection for Celtic folk, the McKassons are playing to packed houses and festival crowds all over the nation. Featuring Ryan McKasson (fiddle, viola), Cali McKasson Kovin (piano), and Matt Jerrell (drums, percussion), the McKassons bring a distinctly American sensibility to traditional Scottish folk -- a sound fused with the spirit of folk rock and bluegrass. Both Ryan and Hanneke are former U.S. National Scottish Fiddle Champions, and the two, along with Cali, have been performing on the Oregon coast together annually since the late 1990's.

The evening promises to be full of great music and fun. The Sprague Theater is located in Bandon at 1202 11th St. SW, Bandon City Park. Tickets are \$16 adv/ \$18 door and advanced tickets can be purchased at The Downtown Fun Zone in Port Orford and The Bandon Mercantile in Bandon, or by calling Diane at 541.332.9851



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Letter to the Editor,

A most important day...Tuesday, November 2! Our votes (and the votes of the rest of the country) will have a tremendous effect on Port Orford and the whole nation. Those of you who have not yet cast your ballots are probably thoughtful, caring voters trying to identify and consider all aspects before making these fateful decisions.

While I do not wish to influence your choice in favor of my bias I'd like to make a few generalizations. First of all the sentiment to "throw all the bums out" and put in all new faces may viscerally feel good. However, incumbents, good or bad, have a certain amount of experience in their positions. Officeholders should, in the long run, be judged by the results of their entire terms in office, not just what party they belong to or having to vote for one particularly odious unread bill such as Health Care. An entirely new membership in Congress going through "on the job training" would be chaotic,

counterproductive and certainly not worth the mindless thrill of childish revenge.

On a local level, while I have no ideological aversion to a group of candidates running as a "slate" I become very uneasy when the closest thing to an "agenda" they can come up with seems to be that they will be "polite and courteous etc, etc," It is reminiscent of an old saying "Hi! I'm with the government and I'm here to help. Trust me!"

May God help us all!

Respectfully,

Jim Hajek

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Theater 101 Presents

Duck Hunter Shoots Angel, a new play by Mitch Albom, is currently in rehearsal at Port Orford’s Theatre 101. This is a story about jaded tabloid journalist Sandy and his sidekick photographer Lenny who are sent on assignment to scoop a story about a couple of duck hunters who appear to have shot an angel. Of course, they also have to find the hunters, who are still wandering around in the swamp, and fend off helicopters full of rival journalists in order to get the exclusive.

This is an intelligent play of words and though it was a comedy with true laugh out loud moments, suddenly the conversations moved into racial and cultural issues, the state of today’s media, and man’s redemption and you never saw it all coming through the hilarity.

Mitch Albom (Author of Tuesdays with Morrie, Five People You Meet In Heaven) has also given us a story of family and of love and loss.

That’s what makes Duck Hunter Shoots Angel so brilliant. Albom dishes out the hilarious zingers equally with digs at rednecks and urbanites, conservatives and Democrats alike, and no one was safe.

Throw in some local acting talent and we all get to laugh.

Tickets are \$10, and available at the door (open a half hour prior to show time) or at Port Orford’s Downtown Fun Zone. For reservations or information call 332-PLAY and leave a message.

Dates for the performances of Duck Hunter Shoots Angel are November

12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, & 26, 27. Friday & Sat. shows at 7:30pm and

Sunday afternoon shows at 2:00pm. Theatre 101 is located at the Seaside Plaza, 1320 Oregon St(Hwy 101) in Port Orford.

Theatre 101 “Quality Theatre on the Oregon Coast”

Guys and Dolls

New Artists Productions presented a production of Guys and Dolls Junior this past weekend at the Sprague Theater in Bandon. This Guys and Dolls is a somewhat edited version of the original Broadway performed by students ages 9 through senior in high school. They had the play down pat and performed the nearly two hour long play smoothly and made it fun.

The production was delightful and the young cast up for the play made famous by the 1955 movie version starring Marlon Brando, Frank Sinatra, Jean Simmons and Vivian Blaine. Though most of the students were from the Bandon School District three of those

participating were from Driftwood School including Nathan Malamud, David Vincent and Natalie Vincent. The exceptional sets and scenery were done by Dan and Daniel Almich and Shelli Peters.

Guys and Dolls Junior continues for one more weekend with evening performances on October 29 and 30 and a Sunday matinee at 2:00pm.

New Artists Productions is a theater company based in Bandon aimed at providing opportunities for school age young people to participate in a variety of plays, music, drama and art and welcomes participation from students in both the Bandon and Port Orford/Langlois School Districts.

Port Orford’s theater company none other than Theater 101 is rehearsing their next offering which is “Duck Hunter Shoots Angel” by Mitch Albom. The play opens on Friday, November 12 and runs for three weekends with evening performances starting at 7:30pm and Sunday matinees at 2:00pm. Tickets for this play are \$10 and available in advance at the Downtown Fun Zone or you can call 541-332-PLAY for reservations or at the door.

Garden Club Conference By Lin Smith

The hard working volunteers that gave of their time and talents made another event successful in Port Orford. The regional fall conference of garden clubs presented an amazing display of horticulture and seasonal beauty. A tasty authentic Mexican luncheon was served to all the participants at our Port Orford Senior Center. Last Thursday was great fun for all who came and the rooms were full. A luncheon will be coming soon to all those volunteers who helped make it happen. Thank you!

The next big event for volunteers is decorating of the historic Hughes House. It does take a village.

Police Chief's Report By Marvin Combs

Open Burning: Yes we have opened up burning season. Be sure and come in and get your permit. Please make sure that the area you are burning is safe and that the burning pile is within the required size according to your permit. Chief Gayle Wilcox and Chief Marvin Combs

This last week we held the oral interview of Officer Gary Rose for a full time position. The oral board found that Officer Gary Rose would be a good fit for our community. The city will be offering Officer Rose a fulltime position with the Port Orford PD. Officer Rose has 30 plus years in law enforcement. He had been working as an instructor at DPSST when he was asked to become and interim officer here at Port Orford. Since that time he has applied for the full time position. I worked with the Officer Rose for 20 plus years at the Deschutes County Sheriff Office, he also has worked at Tillamook PD and Rockaway PD. So with that said he knows what the coast weather is like in the winter months. I know that Gary Rose we be a great asset to this Police Department and the Port Orford Community. When you get a chance please welcome Gary and his wife Betsy to our community.

Its Halloween time and that means that on the day and night of the 31st there will be kids making their way through the city streets. Parents please put some reflective material on the costumes that your child will be wearing. Also make sure that you inspect all candy that is given to your child before they eat it. Let's make this a safe Halloween for everyone in Port Orford.

There will also be extra patrols for DUII drivers on this night as well. Our officers will be working a DUII grant along with other officers from the South Coast DUII Task Force. Let's be responsible and safe over the weekend.

Thanks Clancy

You are honest & forthright. Unusual for a politician in this day and age. Quite refreshing

Candidate Statement

Former Commissioner Lucie La Bonté successfully became the forerunner in the 2010 non-partisan primary race for County Commissioner #1. She is now in a runoff with second place candidate developer David Itzen.

Lucie has continued keeping up to date on county issues. She has been attending commissioner meetings since February. La Bonté followed county government during the 1980s and 1990s as a volunteer. She held office from 2001 - 2008. Her knowledge of what has been done successfully is key to helping the county out of its current crisis. La Bonté introduced the first County Financial Plan in 2001. She began work on Phase 2 in 2004 only to have the effort thwarted by other elected officials. She would like to see Phase 2 looked at again and has the documentation as a starting point.

As a fiscally conservative commissioner she lobbied twice with the National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition to successfully bring dollars to the county through federal legislation. The Coalition believes that "these funds

are to mitigate for the removal of these lands from economic development and settlement". She is now working for a permanent solution.

La Bonté has been seen all over the county, visiting with elected officials, managers, participating in 5 forums and knocking on doors. "It has been a positive experience. Republicans, Democrats and Independents support me because they know I can do the job and listen to all the views before making a decision. I try to do what is best for the County and do not have a personal agenda." "We have a team of hardworking county employees and volunteers. I know the county government and will hit the ground running."

Pacific High Sport Schedule

The PHS Pirates boy's soccer team play Douglas High School at Douglas on Thursday, October 28. The Bandon High/PHS football team travels to Myrtle Point on Friday, October 29 for away games at 4:00 and 7:00pm. Friday, November 5 the football teams (varsity and junior varsity) plays at home at Bandon High School versus Reedsport with games at 4:00 and 7:00pm.

Hanneke Cassel

with the McKassons

Sprague Theatre

Thursday, November 4 7:30pm

Tickets: \$16.00 adv/\$18.00 door

At: Bandon Mercantile, Downtown Fun Zone, Port Orford

Letter to the Editor,

I joined the Curry County Budget Committee to learn how the taxes collected by the County are used. As a result, I now know that the County is already operating on a bare-bones budget, that the departments have been tightening their belts and cutting back for years. The County's reserves will be used up by sometime in 2012.

Curry County lost its source of law enforcement funding when the timber revenue stopped. Those timber monies provided approximately \$4 million in revenue of the County's general fund budget. The County itself generates about \$2 million in revenue. That revenue is used in its entirety to provide basic County services and to raise revenue to keep various public bodies in place, such as schools and city governments. These basic services do not include funding law enforcement services.

Curry County's current tax base is approximately \$.60 per thousand, much less than counties who've never received timber revenue – an average of \$3.60 per thousand. Even with the

increase being requested in the law enforcement levy, Curry County's taxes will not be as high as those counties.

Ask yourselves this: "Is there a beneficial effect or deterrent effect of prosecuting criminals and incarcerating them?" "Do you want to depend upon your own resources should something happen and you need help?" How would you react to a situation where you would normally call 9-1-1 but there is no 9-1-1 available? Would you be prepared to handle that situation on your own, without the help of the services we are used to having?

M. John Spicer

Letter to the Editor,

To Jimmy Johnson, I try to pick up all my dog poop. I never leave my house without my poop bags. I think I'm one of the few who do pick up. I am guilty of letting my dogs run unleashed, but I do carry a leash.

To David Smith if you write lies about me I have to respond. I assume I am a thorn in your side, Hewitt's side and Auburn's. The truth is I never voted

against the police department. The truth is the council was asked to vote on the amount we would charge for the police levy. We had a choice of three different amounts. I supported the lower amount, so we were asked to vote. I voted against the higher amount. That was my only no vote, again, I was looking out for the people of Port Orford.

The hand rail. What I wrote of the parks meeting was the truth. I was shocked at Auburn's words which is why I never forgot. Just because Auburn has changed his mind now does not change the facts. I am just glad the Community Center will get a handrail; this is a good thing. For David Smith to lie and twist the facts to fit his agenda is typical of what goes on.

I'm sure most people have already made up their minds. I wish to thank all the people who have encouraged me to continue and have trusted me to do the right thing for Port Orford. I will continue to work for you as hard as I can. Good luck to everyone especially the people of Port Orford.

Caroline Clancy

Port Orford Matters

Port Orford matters to Art Robinson and Congressman Peter DeFazio as both made appearances in town in the past few days. DeFazio is running for a thirteenth term as Congressman in the Fourth District while Robinson is challenging him for that job. DeFazio was in Port Orford on Saturday night at a private fundraiser while Art Robinson held an informal talk with placard waving supporters in front of the Republican headquarters on a rainy Monday afternoon. Congratulations to both candidates for making appearances in Port Orford as this was Robinson's second visit to town as a candidate while DeFazio held a town hall meeting two months ago at the library.



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Letter to the Editor,

Running out of pre-election time for answers to my previous candidate questions so thought I would delve into my mental budget and council experience and try to figure out how the future governing reasoning train would function on the recent new truck and 75,000 computer program purchase. While I was on the council I was not privy to everything but can surmise enough about the process to set up a hypothetical purchase. Let say for example that a department head decides he could use a left handed dowickie. Wishfully he sticks it in his budget and gives it to the administrators. The

administrators look at the request and thinks darn, where we going to get the money, dohickies are expensive. Hmm they ponder, not the general fund we can only raise taxes so much, not roads, not parks no income there, Hmm how about water and sewer, course that will throw the funds into a loss. Guess we have to raise the rates. Ok department head you get it past the budget committee and the council and you've got your dowickie. Course likewise we have to charge the water and sewer more for administering and computing this dowickie purchase. Yowsa, Public you get my drift. We need a council that will say more then just buy the dowickie. Please vote for

those you think would. Ps. Gold Beach just purchased there like computer program for 48,000. Be proud, guess we have a Caddie and they have a Chevy.

Ed Beck

Letter to the Editor,

Using Garrison Lake as an emergency water source is an extreme health hazard. Remember the lake was a sewage dump for many years for the city and leach lines from houses around the lake are draining into it now. Ever since people have lived here old prescription drugs have been and still are being dumped down toilets only to end up in Garrison Lake. Some of the prescription drugs you can't filter out of the water, some can bring on birth defects to neurological disorders and many forms of cancer. So you don't have to drink the contaminated water. Then there are chemicals that are being dumped in the lake like antifreeze, old oil, and used chemicals from the Port Orford chemists around here. Before the city dump, people were using the lake to dump everything you can think of into it and are still dumping into it old batteries, televisions, computers and much more. We don't live in a desert. There's water all around us. When will the leaders of our town stop playing Russian roulette with our lives?

Alexandra Christine Richardson
Candidate for city council

JURASSIC COUNTRY

Saturday, October 30

9:00pm to 1:00am

Pitch's Tavern

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Join us for a presentation on the opportunities and pitfalls of investing in today’s economy.

Thursday, October 28

3:30 PM

Port Orford Library

1421 Oregon St - Port Orford, OR

Light refreshments will be served.

Space is limited - Please RSVP at 541-332-3711

presented by



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Norma Anderson
AVP/Branch Manager
Chetco Federal Credit Union
Port Orford Branch



Charles Blozinski, CFP®
President/CEO
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Brookings, OR

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Letter to the Editor,

The position of mayor is the top volunteer in our town. Over the past couple of years, I’ve had the chance to get to know Mayor Jim, and I’ve learned that he is a can-do person who has a tremendous dedication to our town. Even when medical problems laid him up in a hospital bed, he dealt with town matters via email. He frequently attends conferences on behalf of the city (on his own dime), networking and always on the look out for good ideas and opportunities that could benefit our community. He has met with several funding agencies and sources about our water system. He has gone to bat for the Port Orford Ocean Resource Team, stood up to the county with respect to planning jurisdiction issues, successfully lead us through a very difficult situation with our former police chief, helped with Copper Salmon Wilderness, and has supported all manner of civic efforts. He is an

outstanding ambassador for Port Orford, and his gentle but firm personality makes him a good leader in our feisty little town. The other candidates have different strengths and abilities, and many of us truly appreciate the service that they have given to our community, but, as I see it, Jim Auburn is the very best candidate for mayor.

Tim Palmer

A Crafty Workshop at Library

If you want to be better prepared for the fast-approaching holidays, join us in a card making workshop on Saturday, November 6 from 1:30-3:30pm at the Port Orford Public Library. Diane McCoy will provide all the materials and instructions to make the unique “CeeDee Christmas Card.” Everyone on your mailing list will enjoy receiving this special card that will add charm and beauty to their holiday decorations. Space is limited, so please call 541-332-

5622 to reserve your place. This is a free program sponsored by Port Orford and Langlois Libraries, working together to bring quality programs to North Curry.

Letter to the Editor,

Just a note to the people of the Port Orford area who shopped at the Bargain Basement at the Senior Center to let them all know that as of September, I have retired from running the Bargain Basement. I met some great people while working there and made some lasting friends, too. Thank you to everyone who shopped there and helped make it a success. I have decided to take a break after three years to tend my gardens and repair my health. Please support the new manager of the Bargain Basement, Carol Myhre, and shop often at Port Orford’s only thrift store at the Senior Center. She’ll do a great job.

Jennifer Ewing

Letter to the Editor,

I know Caroline Clancy to be a decent, honest woman with a good heart. But, either she is being provided misinformation by her contact at DEQ, or there has been a new Port Orford Master Water Plan written since the one dated June, 2005.

I quote from "Historical Supply Deficiencies" on page 100 -- "The City of Port Orford has experienced periods of limited supply the most recent of which was during the 2002 drought... the Hubbard Creek impoundment level dropped to a level where no stream flow was discharged through the weir structure. At this time stream flow was reported to be approximately equal to the amount of water withdrawn by the City."

We had a smaller population then... and the Deady Street storage tank was functional.

Nella Reed Abbott
Elk River/Port Orford

P.S. Read Water Master Plan. I'm sure they have it at the Library or City Hall.



Some candidates will tell you what you want to hear just to get elected. La Bonté has a record of weighing all views and doing what is best for Curry County openly and honestly.

**VOTE FOR:
LUCIE LA BONTÉ!
County Commissioner!**

Paid for by: Lucie C. La Bonté for Commissioner

Letter to the Editor,

Some politicians are all ideology--not Peter DeFazio. He keeps his head to the ground working for the people of his district. He's secured funding for upkeep of our roads, bridges, for dredging South Coast ports, and for reopening the freight line from Coos Bay to Eugene --critical for key industries. These are practical investments that help local

businesses and workers. He's vigorously opposed free trade agreements that push American workers out of jobs. With concern for our region's salmon, he's worked to protect local rivers. In the recent health care bill, he fought for and got increased Medicaid reimbursement for Oregon seniors. He opposed Wall Street bailouts. He also donates a sizable chunk of his salary to scholarships for Oregon students. All these things make me grateful to have Peter DeFazio representing us in Washington. We can't afford to take him for granted. Vote for Congressman DeFazio.

Ann Vileisis

This week's pasta special:

Breaded Calamari Steak

with farfalle and a pepperoncini dipping sauce
served with garlic bread and salad

Hard Rain Café

All hand made pizza, pasta, & ravioli

Quality coffee and espresso

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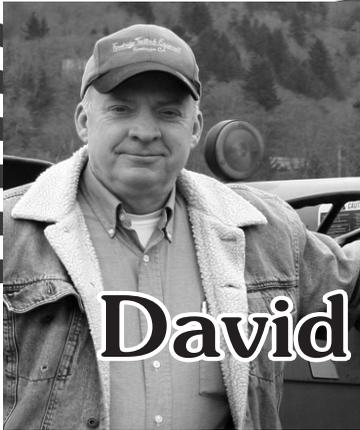
\$4.00 for 1½ lb. loaf

Letter to the Editor,

Having been involved professionally with both candidates for County Commissioner on various boards, committees and commissions, I would recommend David Itzen. In leadership he has helped resolve a number of financial concerns. We need someone of his caliber and abilities as a Commissioner.

Sincerely,

Gary Doran



David

VOTE ✓
Itzen
County Commissioner

As your Curry County Commissioner, David will work to:

- ✓ **Promote conservative and sound funding for all county services.**
- ✓ **Protect jobs and promote business to help local economy.**
- ✓ **Bring a fresh perspective to county government.**
- ✓ **Solve problems as he always has—through teamwork and innovation.**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect David Itzen Commissioner • Jan Amlin, Treasurer

www.DavidItzen.com

Fire Season Ends

As of Sat October 23, 2010 the regulated fire season ended in all areas of Curry County except the Cities of Brookings, Gold Beach and Port Orford. Burn permits are still required year round in the city limits of Brookings, Gold Beach and Port Orford to do any burning. Use of burn barrels are prohibited in the city limits of Brookings. Burning in the County no longer requires a burn permit. However the time limits still apply for burning. Burn Barrels are allowed in the County from sunrise to 10 am and open burns are allowed from sunrise until 4 pm. Large burn piles of a dump truck load or larger within the City limits of

Brookings and out 3 miles still requires a DEQ burn permit. Please use caution and thank you for your cooperation and support this fire season. For further information call your local fire agency.

Chief William J Sharp
Brookings Fire Rescue

New Bird Sighted?

On Oct. 14, Tony Cotter reported seeing a new bird he'd never seen before to local birder Lois Miller. Lois hurried down to the dock after work, and took photos of the small black football shaped bird with a yellow bill. She sent the photos off to several experts,

including her daughter Lisa Sheffield, and everyone agreed that it was likely a crested auklet, a bird that is usually seen in the Bering Sea. News of the sighting spread fast on the internet and drew birdwatchers from around the state to the Port Orford dock for several days. If the sighting is officially accepted by the Oregon Birds Records Committee, it will be the first time a crested auklet has been seen in Oregon. Also, it will push the number of bird species sighted in Curry County up to 400.

Senor Center News

Lots of activity this month and next. Three dozen members had dinner and were entertained with music, songs, and comedy at Honey Bear Campground. The bulkhead around our entrance on 15th street has been rebuilt thanks to a work crew comprised of Fred, Duane, Ken and Dutch. Also the Jackson St. fence was painted thanks to Elaine.

We had 115 people come in for their flu shots at our clinic day. The breakfast November 14 will be Apple pancakes,

waffles, scrambled eggs, ham and the usual self serve coffee and juice. We will have no speaker for our Nov. 30 member meeting but will have a full agenda to discuss. Lunch that day will be hot turkey sandwich with mashed potatoes and gravy, cranberry berry sauce, salad and dessert.

On December 21 we will hold our traditional Xmas dinner from 5 til 7 and the center will furnish turkey, dressing,

mashed potatoes, gravy and rolls. Salads, veggies, and desserts will be potluck by members. We will have music

and a singalong so sign up at the center and join us for a real down home Christmas.

CCEC News

At their regularly scheduled meeting last week, the Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CCEC) board of directors approved the final documents that will be mailed with the capital credits checks later this year. A few months ago, the board of directors approved returning capital credits for the years 1977 through 1979 in the amount of approximately \$2.1 million.

Capital credits are unique to cooperatives. Unlike a for-profit company, a cooperative does not earn profits and does not sell stock to get operating funds or build equity. Instead, cooperatives collect the money they need to operate and build equity through the rates they charge for the services they provide. At the end of each year and after all expenses have been paid, any remaining revenue is allocated back to members in proportion to their usage of the cooperative's services or energy purchased. That share of the "capital" or "equity" of the cooperative is called capital credits. Depending on financial conditions, cooperatives will make the decision to "retire" or return capital credits. Members who were purchasing electricity from the cooperative during the 1977 through 1979 timeframe should expect their capital credits checks mid-December.

The CCEC board of directors also assessed the current practice of holding quarterly Town Hall meetings intended to update members on events affecting their electric cooperative. "Only two members attended the last Town Hall meeting," Roger Meader, General Manager/CEO told the board. "Some members have suggested that we transition the Town Hall meeting format into forums that focus on specific issues like energy efficiency, renewable energy or operations; and we think we'll do that next year."

The cooperative expects to hold the



ESA Sorority

Halloween BINGO Bash

October 29, 2010

Port Orford Community Building



Doors open at 6:00pm
Bingo starts at 6:30pm

\$10 for 10 games

!!! Desserts Only !!!
Hot dogs by donation



Prizes for Best Costumes, Children & Adults

first member forum early next year. The first forum is expected to focus on energy efficiency tips and opportunities, followed by a question and answer session with Meader and board member representatives. More details will be provided in the January edition of Ruralite magazine.

Preparations are also underway for next year's Annual Meeting of the Membership, scheduled for May 14, 2011 at the Event Center on the Beach in Gold Beach, Oregon. Executive Assistant Dian Marple reviewed the timeline leading up to next year's meeting, which will begin with a review of the cooperative's bylaws in October. Nominating committees will be announced late-January with ballots in the mail the first part of April 2011. In addition to business reports, the cooperative will feature energy efficiency and renewable energy exhibits.

AARP Drive Safety Class

An AARP Driver Safety Program class is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on November 6 at the Port Orford Senior Center (1536 Jackson Street) under

the auspices of Southwestern Oregon Community College (SWOCC) and sponsored by the Senior Center.

All attendees 55 or older who complete the Driver Safety Program Class are certified to receive a reduction in auto insurance from their insurance agent per Oregon state law, provided that all insured in the household are over 55 and have taken this class. Drivers who have previously taken the class and received auto insurance discounts are urged to renew their eligibility for reduced auto insurance rates by taking the class every three years if 69 years old or under and every two years if 70 or older.

Membership in AARP is not required for class attendance; the class is now open to all ages. Driver Safety Program class reviews how to compensate for age-related changes thereby reducing traffic violations, crashes and chances for injury, in addition to discussing updated Oregon traffic laws.

Preregistration is required and can be made by calling SWOCC at 247-2741. Cost of tuition is \$12 for AARP members, \$14 for non members, and includes a workbook and other materials. Class starts promptly at 9 a.m.



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**America's Loneliest Road
continued from last week**

We continued on Highway 24 to and through Capital Reef National Park which would have been fun to explore by foot but we kept going on 24. We went over a pass past Loa, Utah and the sign read "elevation 8385 feet". That's over a mile and a half high! After a short stretch on Hwy 119 we arrived at Richfield, Utah which was enveloped by late afternoon smoke from a large fire nearby. When we say, "large," we mean large! The Twitchell Canyon Fire began on July 20 from a lightning strike. It was still burning two months later when we arrived on September 21. On Sept. 15 alone the fire burned over 9500 acres and to date has burned almost 45,000 acres or nearly 70 square miles! Fortunately the fire was far enough away that it didn't really affect us. We found a Super 8 Motel located at an Interstate 70 freeway off ramp and stopped there though this time had to pay \$20 extra to have Honeybear with us in the room.

The next morning we set off south on 70 but soon got on Highway 89 headed to Kanab, Utah. Highway 89 is everything Route 66 might have once been but is

**It's Time for a
change
Vote
Scott Luhr
Mayor**

no longer. 89 goes through exquisite country with lots of water, many small towns along the way and, because of the size of the towns, no chain restaurants or motels. All had the look and feel of independent businesses and it was like going back in time but to a good time. We found a great example of programmatic architecture in Orderville, a town with many rock shops. We stopped at the one built to look like a rock called The Rock Stop. We originally stopped for photos not rocks but then went inside and talked with the owner before departing with a box of colored glass, some small rocks, and some rock candy. The rock shop was once home to several fiberglass dinosaurs built to life size scale but many years ago they were loaded on trucks and driven to Vernal, Utah. In front of the store is a replica of the Flintstone's car which is very often photographed by tourists passing by.

Our next stop was the Best Friends Animal Society compound north of Kanab but the timing wasn't right for a tour just then. We drove into Kanab and found a room at Parry's Motel which has quite the history in the filming of Western movies. Many of the westerns filmed in the 40's and 50's were shot in Kanab in what became known as Utah's "Little Hollywood". The owner of Parry's not only put the film crews up in his motel but helped with logistics on the location filming. Since 1996 only one movie has been made in Kanab

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(Planet of the Apes 2001) but the area has a rich history in Hollywood lore. Kanab is also the gateway to the north rim of the Grand Canyon so off we set, hardly catching our breath for the North Rim which is a good 75 miles southeast of Kanab. We go there in good time, passing an elevation of 8840 feet along the way, but were soon restricted to the car by heavy rains. One nice thing about the rain... it dropped the temperature. At 5:26pm it was down to a chilly 49°F! We ended up leaving earlier than we had planned. This was the first time we had seen the Grand Canyon from the north side. It requires a definite effort to get to the north rim viewing areas. It's a long drive and is not near any major cities nor on the route between any major points. The view is, of course, spectacular but not all that different from the view from the south rim. If anything, the south rim is a bit better because it does allow viewing the Colorado River from some vantage points. The south rim is easier to get to and has far more amenities nearby. The big attraction of the north rim is that it isn't as crowded as the south rim. Another attraction in the north rim park area is a large herd of bison. We didn't see any but a ranger told us that four of them had been hit by cars in just the past week so there must be a lot of them around.

In the morning we did some laundry at the motel while enjoying a wonderful

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Cell 541-530-8778

America's Loneliest Road Continued from Page 14

\$5.99 all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet in the dining room. Thus prepared, we headed west to Zion National Park. The drive into the park is spectacular and includes fantastic rock formations, an exceptionally long (1.1 mile) tunnel built in the 1920's, and incredible sights every way you look. Unfortunately they are working on the roads so traffic is slow, congested, and places to pull over and enjoy the view or take photos are few to none. We finally stopped at park headquarters. From there we took a tram ride through the canyon. Except for the highway across the park, most vehicle traffic is now banned in Zion Canyon and has been replaced by trams which run about every six or seven minutes and which make many stops along the round trip. The park was very crowded and we found the whole experience very frustrating. After taking the bus we got back in the truck and instead of going north to Cedar City and then west, we headed south to St. George, the last stop in our In-N-Out Burger quest. Needless to say it was very satisfying and we were fortified for our journey

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7 strains of worms

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north to Highway 50 in Nevada billed by the Chamber of Commerce and Life Magazine as "the loneliest highway in America."

The Nevada portion of Highway 50 was dubbed "The Loneliest Road in America" by Life Magazine in July 1986. It was intended as a put down but Nevada rose to the challenge and made it a marketing slogan. They issue free "passports". If you get them stamped at each of the five major cities (Ely, Eureka, Austin, Fallon, and Fernley) and send it in, you get back a certificate signed by the governor attesting to your mighty deed and a small souvenir. The campaign seems to be working though Highway 50 may no longer qualify as the loneliest road because of it. Even so, it is still a long stretch of road with little traffic.

We took Highway 18 to 56 to Panaca, Nevada then headed north on 93 to Ely which is the first major stop on Highway 50 coming from the East. We stopped off in Ely for the night so we could get ready for the loneliest highway and spent some time downtown at the Hotel Nevada and Casino. We had already gotten a room at the dog friendly Motel

Happy Halloween



**We still have some
costumes & supplies**

McNair True Value Hardware

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541-332-3371

6 but found the Hotel Nevada was even more dog friendly. A sign in the check in area of the hotel read as follows: "Dogs are welcome in this hotel. We never had a dog that smoked in bed and set fire to the blankets. We never had a dog that stole our towels and played the TV too loud or had a noisy fight with his traveling companion. We never had a dog that got drunk and broke up the furniture. So, if your dog can vouch for you, you are welcome here." They sure got that one right!

After eating and donating some money to the gambling machines we headed back to our side of town and on the way I spotted a huge ball of fire over to the southwest. The truck took control and of course headed over to see what was on fire. As we got closer, the flames got bigger and bigger. But it wasn't a building or a car on fire it was the students of White Pines High School in Ely celebrating their homecoming and football games scheduled for the next night with a big bonfire. The heat from the burning pile of pallets and other materials was so hot as I drove down the road adjacent to the high school

Continued on Page 18

The Cat's Meow



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80' to Battle Rock beach access
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view at VRBO.com/300883

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIED ADS are \$3.50 for the first 25 words or less, and 10¢ each for any additional words. Normal deadline for submission is 3:00pm Tuesday. Downtown Fun Zone, Inc., 832 Hwy 101, Box 49, Port Orford, OR 97465 541-332-6565.

REAL ESTATE / RENTALS

RV OR VEHICLE STORAGE available at Seaside Storage. Open fenced lot in great location. \$35/mo and up depending on size. Call 541-643-5955.

SEASIDE STORAGE has Units available. 541-643-5955.

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ANCHOR INN. ONE TRAILER for rent \$450 per month. One large space for up to 40 foot \$285 per month or \$15 per day. Move-in special on spaces \$25 off first month's rent. 541-366-1013.

3 BDRM garage fenced yard for rent 850.00 a month first last + deposit 541-290-2510.

WANTED TO RENT A HOME, 575.00 or less. Have section 8 voucher. Excellent local references. Call John 1-541-373-0218 Garrage A +.

Local Fish For Sale at the Ocean Resource Team

Available M-Th, 8-noon
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541-332-0627 for more information.

FOR RENT: LANGLOIS unique 3+ bed 1 1/2 bath, fruit trees, garden space, storage shed, large yard \$800 + deposit and utilit. 3 bed 2 bath in town. Beautiful 2005 man home. Raised beds, sky lights, new appliances, fenced yard, garage \$850 + deposit and utilit. Cute cottage 2 bed 1 bath, large garage, close to library, pet friendly \$575 + deposit and utilit. Call Robin @ Port Orford Property Management 541-253-6107.

FOR RENT: 2 BED 1 & ¼ BATH nice clean with 2 car garage \$775.00 per month \$900.00 deposit 775-742-0130.

FOR RENT: 2 BEDROOM 1 & ¼ Bath lakeview 2 car garage newly remodeled fireplace \$675 p/m 541-290-9857.

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FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH invites you to come and fellowship. Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Sunday Service at 10:45 a.m., 2025 Jackson St. and 20th, 541-332-3664, <http://www.fccofportorford.com> Join us in "Sharing in Light and Life", Pastor Jonathan Garland.

BEST INTERNET FOR LESS!! Briskweb, Inc. Service Available Nationwide. Unlimited local 56K dialup, friendly tech support & more. \$16.00/monthly. www.briskweb.net 541-332-1337.

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Classified Ads
Continued from Page 16

GARAGE SALE

BEADS, NATURAL STONE, Glass, bone, pearls, rock chips, findings, hemp, components, agates, wood creations, knit goods, collectibles, jewelry, Christmas decorations, wrapping material. Sixes Grange 11:00-4:00pm daily.

POWDER HOUSE 343 9th St Garage Sale. Flooring. Electric range etc. Bake sale. Cats hats 10/30 10:00/3:00 Please no early birds.

MISCELLANEOUS

AUDIO TAPES, Christian fiction, new bookcase of "cozies" (clean mysteries), romance, sci-fi, children's corner, petting zoo (one dog). Happy's bookstore. 4 miles south of Bandon. 12-5 Wed-Sat.

NEED A HALLOWEEN COSTUME? Theatre 101 can help! Call Susie at 406-250-3312.

MINI STORAGE/U-HAUL. 200+ storage units, 150+ climate controlled. Airport-U-Stor, across from Ocean Spray 541-347-4356.

NEW VIDEOS: "The Way Home", "The Girl Who Played With Fire", "You Don't Know Jack", "Winter's Bone", and "Sex In The City 2 (the second movie based on the TV series)". Please remember all items are due back by 3:30pm the next business day. Reservations must be pre-paid so cannot be taken over the phone. Downtown Fun Zone, Inc. Open 9:30-5:30 Mon-Thursday and 9:30-6:30 Friday and Saturday. Closed Sundays.

DIGITAL CAMERA and Photoshop lessons, call Steve @ 541-332-0353 or stephen@earthseimagery.com.

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CD / DVD / GAME WON'T PLAY? Don't throw it out! Fix it! Downtown Fun Zone, Inc. now offers disc cleaning/repair services. (single sided) \$3.00 for basic cleaning, \$5.00 for deep scratches. See store for details.

DRIVEWAY AND LANDSCAPE rock, bark, and sand. Small truck loads. Bob 541-253-6240.

FADED AND/OR DAMAGED photo restoration, call Steve @ 541-332-0353 or stephen@earthseimagery.com.

DOES YOUR NUTRITIONAL supplements cupboard look like a collection of the "guessing game"? So did mine. Ask me how I cleaned it up. 406-250-3312.

UPTOWN FRAMES will be closed the month of October. Thanks. Carol.

FREE JUNK VEHICLE removal now available. Driveway gravel. Pothole filling & driveway repair services. Landscape materials & Currydale deliveries. John's Hauling 541-290-4722.

WASHER KENMORE 80 SERIES works great \$100. 5 CD changer Panasonic MP3 \$75 41-260-4436.

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SIREN'S COVE CAFÉ is now serving fresh baked goods; scones, brownies, cookies, cinnamon rolls, etc. Beginning October 27th. Come see us for your morning pastry.

NEARSHORE JIG FISHERMAN Come fish on the Bobber Ann. Experience preferred. Call Harry 541-840-1488.

NOVEMBER ONE, in celebration of the power of love in ordinary life. It gives humans a value as social beings.

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Exuberant paintings and prints
See my paintings at Siren Cafe
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WANTED: JULY 1985 Scientific American magazine. Valerie at the Fun Zone 541-332-6565.

SMOKED WILD CHINOOK salmon ravioli special this week. Look for the Toro e Capra label at Seaweed Natural Grocery or the grab-and-go cooler at the Hard Rain Café for 3 kinds of ravioli and fresh made pastas. Mangia!

ANTIGUA WINDS SAXOPHONE. Like new \$500 obo. Ibanez electric guitar with new Marshall amp \$300 obo. Casio electric keyboard \$50.00 obo. 541-348-2310.

KHAKI CAMPBELL DRAKE for sale \$8.00 or trade for Khaki Campbell hen. 541-332-2555.

Letter to the Editor,

I must respond to Jimmy Johnson's letter of October 10. He claimed that Caroline Clancy does not clean up

after her dogs on port beach. I can attest that that is not true having walked on the beach with the 'morning group'

for over two years I know that Caroline always picks up after Bo, Charlie and Anne. She has provided plastic bags

for me or anyone who need one and encouraged others to use them.

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America's Loneliest Road Continued from Page 15

you could feel it singe you as you went by. We then parked and joined in with the rest of the town folk and watched the bonfire from a safe distance. The fire department was there watching the situation as well as the sheriff's department with the main street in front of the high school blocked off to traffic. Hundreds of White Pine high school students stood near the bonfire and the din and excitement of their conversations could be heard from a distance. Glad to see they allow this kind of thing in some parts of the country.

The next morning we headed over to the railroad yard of the former Northern Pacific Railroad. This is a railroad I had never heard of so I wasn't in Ely because of it. The railroad and buildings are now Northern Nevada Railroad Museum run by the White Pine Historical Foundation. They have tours of the facilities plus operate steam and diesel excursion trains from the East Ely Nevada train station. What makes this museum so much better than anything I've ever seen is the Railroad foundation was given an intact railroad back in 1986 by Kennecott Copper which owned and operated the railroad and of course the nearby copper mine at Ruth going back to 1942. When Kennecott completely shut down their mining operations in 1983 they left behind a fully intact 140 mile railroad line which connected to the Southern Pacific line, a huge rail yard and station and lots of working equipment including three steam engine. Today the Northern Nevada runs excursion trains daily through summer and continues weekend service in winter including a Halloween train and a Polar Express train. The person we spoke with that morning offered us the opportunity visiting the shops where the steam engines were being worked on and off we went surprised at their generosity. And no we didn't take either of the day's

two train excursions as by then we had developed "road fever" and just wanted to keep moving so off we drove on Highway 50 to Eureka and west.

Eureka is another old mining town with some very old historical buildings of note including the 1879 Eureka Opera House. We stopped off at the Chamber of Commerce/Historical Museum (building circa 1879) to get our passports stamped and then walked over the Opera House. The building has a varied history including serving as a movie theater for a time but now is used for live concerts and meetings. At the museum we were given an audio CD that describes the sights and the history of Highway 50. We played it as we drove along and learned a lot about the route as a result. Highway 50 follows part of the pony express route and the CD told quite a bit about that short-lived venture (April 1860 to October 1861.)

Our next stop to have our Passports stamped was in Austin. We were greeted as we entered Austin by a homemade sign warning us of a speed trap ahead. Next thing we saw was the Nevada Highway Patrol having pulled someone over and had them on the ground but hopefully not for speeding. Austin is full of very old buildings but we didn't stay long or look around much. We did stop at a convenience store for something to drink and to walk Honeybear. Evan was delighted that they had Vernor's Ginger Ale which he had been seeking with little success. Refreshed, off we sped to Fallon and the longest stretch of 50 between towns.

We had heard about the "Shoe Tree" along 50 and almost drove past it but spotted it in time for a quick and rewarding stop. The shoe tree is just that - a tree full of hundreds of pairs of mainly tennis shoes and hiking boots which have been laced together and thrown onto the tree's branches. Out came the cameras and we took lots of photos of the tree shoes and then others started

stopping by the shoe tree including a pair of young women bicyclists. They had started their cross country trek in Portland, Maine and were on their way to San Francisco by bicycle and had already covered 4,100 miles! They were bicycling to raise awareness for better water quality in developing countries. They gave me a roller derby decal from North Carolina and that made my day but then it was time for us to leave and head for Fallon -about 45 miles west of the shoe tree.

Fallon was the fourth city to where we got our passport stamped and where we stayed for the night at yet another Motel 6. Fallon is located at the crossroads of Highway 50 and 95 which is the road to Las Vegas. After dinner at Pizza Hut, we drove out to the Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge to see if we could get some photos of birds. We didn't see many birds and those we saw were a long way off though Evan did see one rabbit. What we did see were thousands and thousands of hungry mosquitoes! They quickly chased us back into the car. We took a scenic loop through the park but by then the sun was setting and we didn't want to get caught in the wild in the dark so we nervously kept moving and finally got back to civilization and our motel.

Continued Next Week

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