

# Port Orford Today!

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Vol. 23 Number 03

## Wednesday, January 18, 2012

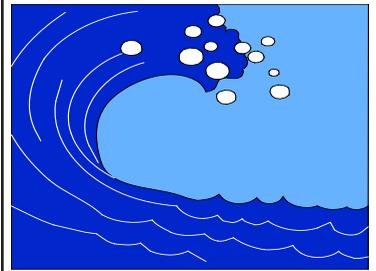
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# FREE



**Tsunami Debris  
Hits West Coast**

### Council Remembers Scott Luhr By Evan Kramer

The Port Orford City Council met last Thursday afternoon and began their meeting with a moment of silence for former councilor Scott Luhr who passed away two weeks ago. Mayor Jim Auburn said that Scott had not wanted a memorial service but there might be one in April.

Karen Auburn, representing the Port Orford Main Street program, gave the council an updated on the progress of that program. She said that Port Orford was one of three cities in Oregon which had been selected for the “transforming downtown level of the Main Street Program”, a step up from the exploring downtown phase of this program. The will allow Port Orford to receive technical assistance, training, community assessments and networking help with the Oregon Main Street program. Auburn said there is no fee to Port Orford for participating in the Main Street network.

Under the department and liaison reports it was reported that the City has purchased a new mower-tractor for the public works department. Mayor Auburn stated now that the council meetings are in the daytime he wanted the city’s financial director David John-

son, to attend the council meetings. The water loss rate went down this month and Mayor Auburn said the crew was doing a great job. This thought was seconded by public works director Allan Wagner who always thanks his crew for their efforts.

Councilor Dianne Schofield sits on the Port Commission as well and reported that the crab season has not been as good as expected. She said the Port of Port Orford did not receive dredging this year along with the Ports of Umpqua and Garibaldi to save money as the Army Corps of Engineers budget was not big enough to dredge all the Oregon Ports. Governor John Kitzhaber has gotten involved in this problem and send to a letter to the Secretary of the Army explaining the urgency of the situation. She said Governor Kitzhaber will be in Port Orford on February 11 for a screening of the movie “Ocean Frontiers” at the Savoy Theater.

Councilor David Smith sits on the Port Orford-Langlois School Board and said they had met that Monday in lengthy planning and regular sessions. The school board set goals for this year and Smith added thanks to past school boards they are doing well financially. Smith was elected president of the

Chamber of Commerce at their January meeting.

The council considered Resolution 2012-05: the right of way (ROW) use license policy. Councilor Smith made a motion to adopt the Resolution with a change from a 14 to a 30 day notification for an appeal. This resolution puts the responsibility on the city administrator to make the decision on approving or denying a right of way license. He will first consult with the public works superintendent and the police chief. An appeal to the decision can be made by the adjoining property owner, the applicant, or an adversely affected citizen of Port Orford within 30 days of his decision. The vote was 5-1 for the motion with councilor Caroline Clancy voting no saying she wanted to be notified when someone appeals an ROW license. She also pointed out that by the time people find out about the ROW approval the project might already be complete and then people will not want to undo the work.

The council came out of their planning session held before the regular meeting with some changes in their meeting schedules. They are going back to one council meeting a month to be held on the third Thursday of the month at

**Continued on Page 2**



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**Tide Predictions For Port Orford - 42° 44.735 N 124° 30.832 W**

Produced by "WXTide32" version 4.7 by Michael Hopper - <http://wxtide32.com>

Thursday 01-19	Friday 01-20	Saturday 01-21	Sunday New 01-22	Monday 01-23	Tuesday 01-24	wednesday 01-25
L0115 3.6	L0228 3.6	L0332 3.5	L0428 3.2	H0004 6.9	H0041 7.1	H0116 7.2
H0737 8.3	H0837 8.5	H0932 8.6	H1023 8.5	L0519 2.9	L0607 2.6	L0653 2.4
L1504 -0.5	L1556 -0.9	L1643 -1.2	L1726 -1.2	H1111 8.4	H1157 8.1	H1241 7.6
H2149 5.7	H2241 6.2	H2324 6.6		L1805 -1.1	L1842 -0.7	L1917 -0.2

**Council Remembers Scott Luhr  
Continued from Page 1**

3:30pm. They will continue holding workshop sessions prior to the regular meeting and they will normally begin at 3:00pm. For the month of February the workshop meeting will begin at 2:00pm so the council can finish up their goal setting for this year.

They then adopted Resolution 2012-09 approving a recreation trails grant unanimously. The goal here is to develop a more pedestrian friendly trail down to the beach at Battle Rock Park along Fifth Street though at this point it won't be ADA accessible.

The council conducted the first reading of the Sign Ordinance 2012-02 which includes many changes to the existing ordinance. Mayor Auburn read the Ordinance by title only. Much time was spent discussing placement of political and real estate signs. Both kinds of signs will be allowed in the city right of way with the permission of the city and adjoining property owner. Councilor Clancy argued that political signs

should be placed on private property not in the city right of way. City Administrator Mike Murphy pointed out that with the city streets being 80 feet wide if the signs were to go on private property in many cases they would be in the bushes or far back from the actual street which in many cases is only 25 feet wide.

The council agreed by consensus to the consent calendar which included Mayor Auburn's appointment of Deloris Finch to the city planning commission and approval of a fire fighters appreciation proclamation.

When the council got back to council considerations at the end of the meeting Councilor Clancy said she was upset with the ROW agreement saying it was wrong to give control of this to the city administrator. She then spoke about her friend and fellow dog walker on the council Scott Luhr, saying they had exchanged recipes with both of them liking to cook. She reminded people about Luhr's work rescuing the pelicans during the violent storms of a few years back and said he would be sorely missed.

**SWOCC Curry Campus**

The public is invited to an Open House celebrating the opening of the new Southwestern Oregon Community College Curry County campus in Brookings. It will be held on Friday, January 27, from 2:00pm on and will feature tours of the new building, refreshments, and much more. The campus is located at 96082 Lone Ranch Parkway right off Highway 101 north of the Brookings city limits. For more information please call 541-469-5017 or 541-888-7211.

**Port Orford Water Report**

The City of Port Orford Public Works Department reported production from the water treatment plant in December of 2011 totaled 3.462 million gallons of water. The City metered 2.080 million gallons of water to consumers for a loss of 1.382 million gallons of water or 39.9%. The public works department received and treated 2.315 million gallons of wastewater for the month of December.

## Rotary Crab Feed

**Saturday, Feb. 4**  
**6:00–11:00 pm**  
**P.O. Community Building**

*Karaoke with DJ David!*

Tickets \$25 available from:

- Rotary Members
- CFCU
- Portl & Starboard

Open to persons 21 or older

No Host Bar

### Paul Edward Lee

January 16, 1927 ~ January 6, 2012

Paul E. Lee of Port Orford passed away on January 6, 2012. Paul was born on a farm in Enemclaw, Washington on January 16, 1927. His family moved to the Puget Sound area, living in Richmond Beach through Paul's grade school years. He had many adventures growing up with his brothers, as they swam, sailed and beach combed throughout Washington and Oregon.

Paul attended Corvallis High School, and then joined the Naval Air Force in January 1945. He trained in Florida, and was discharged in 1946. Paul returned to Corvallis to study at Oregon State College. He transferred to Oregon College of Education (OCE), where he met Patricia Keep, and they were married in 1951. Paul earned his Bachelor's in Education and a teaching credential from OCE. He enjoyed playing football throughout his school years, and served as the Student Body President at both Corvallis HS and OCE (now Western Oregon University). Paul was a halfback on the "OCE undefeated team of 1949", earning him induction

into their Hall of Fame (along with Corky Van Loo of Sixes).

Paul taught school for sixteen years throughout Oregon, including three years in Port Orford (1963-1966). At the time, Battle Rock Junior High existed, and he taught an eighth grade class there for one year. He then taught fourth and fifth grades in the elementary school. He had great memories of teaching many subjects for students ranging from kindergarten through eighth grade. The family enjoyed the wonderful Geer Circle neighborhood during that time. In 1966 Paul retired from teaching and went into small business. He and Pat owned a general store in Lowell until returning to Port Orford in 1973. Their Port Orford businesses were Paul's Place service station and the Silver Door restaurant. The Lees built their home along the Elk River. Paul retired in 1993 to enjoy their home in the forest, traveling and gardening. Their travel highlights included Spain, Portugal and many cruises.

Paul is survived by his beloved wife Patricia Lee, of Port Orford, and his three children Dale Lee of Port Orford,

Samuel Lee and Tamara Lee Fanning of Eugene. Paul's grandchildren are Ruby L. Fanning of Eugene and Ry L. Fanning of Coos Bay. His brother James M. Lee and his wife Marjorie reside in Arroyo Grande, CA. There are also several nieces and nephews in several states.

### Fashion Show / Silent Auction

Come join the fun at the "Second Time Around" Fashion Show and Silent Auction at the Port Orford Senior Center on Saturday, January 28, at 2:00pm. The ESA Sorority ladies will be modeling some truly lovely, elegant, gently used formals for your viewing pleasure.

Tea and refreshments will be served. Pick the perfect dress for the upcoming Senior, Senior Prom.

Cost for the fashion show and auction is \$3 per person or \$5 per couple. Tickets are available in advance at Dad's Coins and Collectables and the Senior Center. Tickets will be available at the door. This event is sponsored by the ESA Sorority and the Port Orford Senior Center.



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**Tsunami Debris**

We all remember the March 11 magnitude 9.0 earthquake and tsunami that devastated Japan and killed tens of thousands of people. We all remember the much smaller resulting tsunami from that earthquake that reached the west coast of the United States and created a large stir of excitement and anxiety here in Port Orford. Fortunately, that tsunami, after traveling thousands of miles from the epicenter of the earthquake off the Japan coast line, was much smaller and turned out to be more of a viewing spectacle. Port Orford came out relatively unscathed. This was not the end of the story, however.

In Japan, where the tsunami reached heights of 33 ft and lasted for more than one-and-a-half hours, untold amounts of debris washed into the Pacific Ocean. It is estimated that 5 million to 25 million tons of debris could have been released in to the ocean, nobody has an exact number. Tangled up in the debris is everything from entire homes, to automobiles, boats, and human bodies. Anything that floats, was washed away and began to travel towards the United States. After the disaster had struck and

the tsunami debris began its journey across the Pacific Ocean it was estimated that we could begin to see that debris by early 2013. It turns out that was wrong. The debris has already begun to arrive on our coast line.

Items that are lightweight and easily pushed along by the wind, have outpaced the rest of heavier more submerged debris. Both Vancouver, BC and the Neah Bay coastline, a part of the Olympic Peninsula in Washington State, have seen the first confirmed pieces of marine debris generated by the Japan tsunami. As reported in the December 14 Peninsula Daily News article, “The first piece of debris that could be identified as washing up on the West Coast from the March 11 tsunami in Japan — a large black float — was found on a Neah Bay beach two weeks ago, Seattle oceanographers Curtis Ebbesmeyer and Jim Ingraham said Tuesday night. Since then, the two researchers, known as DriftBusters Inc. — who have used flotsam to track wind and water currents in the Pacific since 1970 — have learned that the black, 55-gallon drum-sized floats also have been found on Vancouver Island.”

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With this in light, it is only a matter of time before Oregon and our community begins to see the first signs of this debris for ourselves. Keeping mind the devastation that occurred in Japan, the loved ones who perished, along with all the memories and valuables of those who survived the article goes on, “If the debris has any kind of identifiable marking, such as numbers or Japanese writing, it may be traceable, Ebbesmeyer said. “All debris should be treated with a great reverence and respect,” he said. Families in Japan are waiting to hear of any items that may have been associated with their loved ones and may travel to the U.S. to meet those who found these mementos, he added. The rafts of debris include whole houses which may still contain many personal items, and the Japanese are known for storing important personal mementos in walls, Ebbesmeyer said. Even the smallest of traceable items may be the only thing associated with one of those people who were lost during the disaster, he said.” For more information check out the 14 December Peninsula Daily News article

## Get wise to age-fighting.

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### Tsunami Debris Continued from Page 4

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has taken the national lead on tracking marine debris from the Japan Tsunami. If you happen to find any marine debris that may have come from the tsunami, you should contact the NOAA.

NOAA has stated, “In order for NOAA to keep reassessing the situation with the best possible data, it is critical that the public alert us when they see a piece of tsunami debris - at sea or on the beach. If you see a piece of debris that you suspect is tsunami-related, please report it to: [DisasterDebris@noaa.gov](mailto:DisasterDebris@noaa.gov). Keep in mind that debris from Asia washes up on our shores all the time - so we may need a little extra information to help confirm that it's tsunami-generated debris, such as an accompanying photo, a description, and location info. If you have additional questions about the tsunami debris, like the what, where, and when, please visit our website for more information: [www.http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/info/japanfaqs.html](http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/info/japanfaqs.html).”

The Port Orford Ocean Resource Team is dedicated to staying alert and up-

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to-date with all happenings related to this issue. As events unveil and new information comes to light, we promise to continue and notify our community.

Tyson Razor, Ecosysetem Programs Manager, POORT

### Letter To The Editor,

In the Jan. 11, 2012 issue of “Port Orford Today”, (Thank you, Evan, for your excellent paper, by the way!), a letter was posted that had a line that really caught my eye. “By the time Obama took office, it was a \$1.3 trillion deficit.” I’m not sure if it would be considered “opinion” or “fact”, however in today’s edition of “The Washington Post”, dated 1/12/2012, there is an article relating to the “fact” that Obama is (IS) asking for Another \$1.2 trillion to increase the Nation’s borrowing limit. This would raise the Debt Ceiling automatically from \$15.2 trillion to \$16.4 trillion. Lets do the math. If Obama has been in office since Jan. 2009, and it’s now Jan. 2012, then that makes it 36 months. That equals about \$5+ trillion per year! According to the afore mentioned letter writer, if Obama started out with a 1.3 trillion deficit, at who’s doorstep can

we lay this current \$15.2, soon to be \$16.4 trillion debt? By the way, we are talking dollars here, just to be clear. A little further math, grade school level, shows us with 315 million people, it is almost incomprehensible the amount of debt that has been piled on the American people. That’s what we’re talking about, the bottom line. Who are we going to get that will address the real problem, the Debt?

Jim Kuhn,

### Free Movie

Free Movie! Join us for a showing of “Gifted Hands” with Cuba Gooding Jr., in the true story of a man who overcame obstacles to become a gifted brain surgeon who would change the course of medicine forever. The movie is on Sunday, January 22, 5:30pm at the Port Orford Christian Center, located at Tenth and Washington Streets. Popcorn provided.

### Sixes Fire District Meeting

The Sixes Rural Fire Protection District board meets on Wednesday, January 18, 7:00pm, at the fire hall located at Highway 101 and Crystal Creek Road.

**Letter To The Editor,**

Thank you once again for helping make the Children's Christmas Bazaar such a success. The Fellowship Hall and gymnasium at the church were filled with children and parents having a wonderful time together! Over 85 children turned out and close to 600 gifts were wrapped and sent out to parents, siblings and grandparents in this community.

It was a wonderful day and without the help of the community, it would not have been possible. So, thank you: those that donated money, that donated gifts and those that gave of their time so freely to help make all this possible. A special thanks needs to go to the ladies at McNair's Hardware Store for collecting and selecting gifts for the children – you folks are wonderful! And to the ladies at Chetco, thank you once again for helping in the collection of the donations – you ladies are great!

From all of us at the Port Orford Christian Center, thank you once again for your generous spirit. May God bless this community in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Gail Conwell  
Women's Ministry, Port Orford  
Christian Center

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**Property Tax Deferral**

Curry County Assessor Jim Kolen reports that the State of Oregon has a property tax deferral program which may provide assistance to some senior and/or disabled citizens with their property taxes.

In this program, the State of Oregon pays the property taxes for qualified applicants. Taxes must be paid back to the state when the property changes ownership or the owner moves.

Property owners must meet the following requirements to qualify for the property tax deferral: Senior

**Jubilee Can Drive**

**Sun., Jan. 22**

at the Liquor Store Parking Lot

*Bring all your empties to be turned in to help the Jubilee pay for fireworks.*

Thank you!

- Jubilee

Info # 541-332-4400

Citizens - Must be 62 years old by April 15. Disabled Citizens - At least one joint property owner needs to qualify as an individual with disabilities and must be determined eligible to receive or be receiving federal Social Security disability benefits due to disability or blindness.

The Oregon Legislature has recently made significant changes to the eligibility for the Senior and Disabled Citizen Property Tax Deferral programs. Requirements for both programs now include: Applicant's net worth must be below \$500,000. Applicant's real market value of their property must be less than \$195,000 (This figure varies for each county). They must have had lived in their home for at least five years and have home owner's insurance. Participants must re-apply every two years and are prohibited from having a reverse mortgage. Interest on deferred taxes is calculated at 6 percent compound (applicable to taxes advanced on or after July 1, 2011).

Also, senior and disabled citizen applicants must own the property they are living in and first time applicants must have a total household income of less than \$39,500 in 2011.

Applications must be filed with Kolen's office by April 15. For applications, information, or assistance please call Shelley Carpenter at the Curry County

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**Letter To The Editor,**

Behind closed door politics of the good old days is alive and well and living at the Port Orford Rural Fire Protection Board.

During the Board's monthly meeting that was held last Thursday, Board Member, Brice Wagner presented to the board a new policy change. The new policy would be Automatic Mutual Aide for both Port Orford Fire Department and Sixes Fire Department. This would mean that no matter how minor the call or how far up Elk or Sixes River, one of the departments would be out of their service area. This could mean that Langlois Fire Department would have to cover calls for those departments during this time which could take them out of their service area.

This new policy change came without notification to two board members, the Fire Chief, the Fire Department and you the public. There is a good possibility that this was illegal. Three members of your new Fire Board apparently know what is best for all concerned without consulting the public or Fire Department. Thank you,

Tina Buchholz  
POVFD  
Port Orford Community Ambulance  
President

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### Letter To The Editor,

Thanks to everyone who helped make the Kalmiopsis Nature Film Festival such a success. We had nearly 200 participants, and the Savoy Theater was packed all day and night, with attendees from Brookings, Pistol River, Gold Beach, Ophir, Langlois, Bandon, Coos Bay, Charleston, and even from as far away as Grants Pass.

This special event would not have been possible without the help of many volunteers, the support of local newspapers with publicity, and, most important, the interest, enthusiasm, and generosity of the audience. Thanks also to Chris Speed for making her theater available to us. The Savoy is truly a unique and wonderful asset to our community.

Ann Vileisis, President  
Kalmiopsis Audubon Society

### Crab Season Opener

Commercial and sport Dungeness crabbing opens Jan. 15 from Gold Beach south, making all of the ocean off Oregon now open to crabbing.



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The ocean commercial Dungeness crab season in Oregon normally opens Dec. 1, but was delayed this year because crab did not meet minimum pre-season quality testing. Fishery managers made the decision in December to delay the season from about Gold Beach (42°26'00" N. Lat.) south to the California border until Jan. 15.

The testing measures the percentage of meat in the crab, by weight. Fishery managers can delay the season to allow the crab to fill with meat and ensure a high-quality product to consumers.

Commercial crabbers are allowed to set their gear three days before the season opens, so ocean watchers on the southern coast will see the lights of crab boats as early as Thursday (Jan. 12).

Sport crabbing is open year-round in bays and estuaries.

ODFW's mission is to protect and enhance Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats for use and enjoyment by present and future generations. The Department's policies are set by the Fish and Wildlife Commission. ODFW is headquartered in Salem and works through a regional management

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structure that allows for fish and wildlife management at the local level.

ODFW's Marine Resources Program manages Oregon's commercial and sport saltwater fisheries and has stewardship over our state's marine environment.  
<http://www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/>

### Donation Fund Set Up

A donation fund has been set up at Chetco Credit Union to assist Caroline West, whose home on Port Orford Loop Rd. burned to the ground on Jan. 5. Caroline, who is a widow and only has a widow's pension to live on, lost everything she owned in the fire. She is hoping that someone might have a trailer that she can put on her property for her to live in while she is cleaning up and getting ready to rebuild. Any size trailer will do and it doesn't need to be in great condition either. If you have something like this, please call Caroline on her cell phone: 1 (541) 670-6606. If you would like to make a donation to help her get on her feet again, you can put money into the donation fund that has been established in her name at Chetco Credit Union in Port Orford.

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## GARAGE SALE

**YARD SALE** at the Seacrest Motel. Used furniture and other items. Next Sat, Sun 21st, 22nd, indoor rain or shine. 44 Hwy 101, Port Orford 541-332-3040.

## MISCELLANEOUS

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**NICE COOL WATER** or hot water if you prefer from this Greenway counter top water dispenser. Like new \$40.00 at the Downtown Fun Zone.

**BINGO EVERY WED. NIGHT** starts at 6:30 pm at Sixes Grange.

**FOR SALE: 72" BEIGE SOFA** with down / foam cushions. Includes two seasonal slipcovers: hunter green, and cream with blue roses. \$25 541-332-0639.

**FREE QUEEN MATTRESS** and box springs. Excellent condition. 541-332-0168.

**FORSALE: 15 HP JOHNSON** outboard \$400.00. 541-332-1132.

**FREE HOSPITAL BED** 541-332-0268.

## Sixes Firefighters Donation

Thank you to the Sixes Fire Department for their enormous food donation to The Common Good. Their donation of 1000 pounds of food will be distributed locally to help families in need of assistance. Donations for The Common Good and Backdoor Closet are accepted year round on the first four Wednesdays of each month from 10:00–11:30am and 1:00–3:30pm.

## Taking Stock

By Tobe Porter, Library Director

For many businesses, a new year means taking inventory. So I decided to take stock of all the Port Orford Public Library has to offer you.

Books galore--current best sellers in fiction and non-fiction as well as favorites and the classic "should have reads." We have a fine collection of books in Large Print too. Oh, and textbooks!

If you'd rather listen than read, we have books on CD and books on tape; and if you'd rather look than listen, we have DVDs and Videos too. Not much time to read, look or listen? Then enjoy our collection of 52 magazines and 6 newspapers.

We have books for young adults that we all enjoy—like *The Hunger Games*, now a hit movie. We have absolutely the most amazing collection of books for children of all ages. In our welcoming, colorful children's room, you can start with board books about trucks and go right up to books about forensic technology.

All this plus the Friends' Store that offers quality items, free Internet service, first class art exhibits, and open hours every day of the week. Throw in the programs we sponsor with the Langlois Public Library and I'd say that the North Curry Community has something to crow about in this new year!

So start your new year with a visit to the Port Orford Public Library. You'll be glad you did, and so will we.

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## Rotary Crab Feed By Elaine Roemen

Nothing brings our town together like Rotary's annual Crab Feed. All the crab and fixin's you can eat while your ticket price of \$25 goes directly to Pacific High Scholarships.

Port Manager, Gary Anderson and his team are busy getting it all ready for the big feast on February 4 at the Port Orford Community Building, 6:00pm Buy your tickets from Chetco Federal Credit Union, Sterling Bank, Port and Starboard Restaurant.

We had great students of the month for January. Santiago Martinez, 8th grader, was selected by the Driftwood staff and was applauded at Rotary His favorite class is science, "I'm always curious and I like to understand how things work" he said. He loves basketball and soccer as well as playing all styles of guitar which he has mostly taught himself. Santiago's mother Tammy Cook was on hand to applaud her son.

Also recognized for his excellence was Pacific High School Senior, Charlie Jensen. Charlie is a volunteer fireman, excels in cross country, basketball, ballroom dancing and is planning to join the marine corps delayed entry. His love of English Literature he attributes to the excellence of his teacher, Mrs. Pendergrass

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## Letter To The Editor,

I'm baaacckk! Had a little health problem and I'd like to say the folks at North Bend Medical Center and Bay Area Hospital were kind, professional and just great! (The beds, however, must have been made by the same people who designed the rack used in the Spanish Inquisition)

The holidays have come and gone. For those of you of faith I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year. For those of you of little or no faith happy holidays and lotsa luck.

Now to business. From now on there will only be one City Council meeting per month and it will be on the 3rd Thursday at 3:30 in the usual place. Very few citizens attended the last one. Such poor attendance is below sad or

a shame. Just because your "favorite" topic is not on the table is no excuse.

These are probably the most difficult times we have ever faced and they can get much worse quickly if we don't all start paying attention and (horrible thought) start using the brains God gave us city, county, state and federal are all in big trouble. It's time the politicians stop pandering to us for our votes and promoting class warfare to escape the blame so justly due them and us.

Lots more to come.

Respectfully

Jim Hajek

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## Crab Prices Rising

The Oregon Dungeness Crab Season got underway on December 15 with a price of \$2.30 paid to the fishermen with the price locked in for the first 22 days of the season. Since the price cap came off it has risen as of January 13 to \$3.50 per pound but there may be some independent fish buyers paying more than that amount.

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## Card Making Class

It's never too early to think about love. You can get a jump on Valentine's Day by attending a card making class with Diane McCoy at the Port Orford Library on Saturday, January 28 at 1:00pm. There will be hearts and flowers to suit every romantic or springtime occasion. There is a \$5 materials fee for this program sponsored by the Port Orford and Langlois Libraries. Call 541-332-5622 to reserve your place.

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## Port Orford Water Festival

The Fifth Annual Port Orford Water Festival will be held on Saturday, April 14, at the Community Building; located at Washington and Eleventh Streets, one block east of Highway 101. Look for upcoming press releases coming up with the schedule of events.

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### Multiple Traffic Crashes

On Monday, January 16, the Curry County Sheriff's Office responded to eight (8) separate traffic crashes between 7:25 am and 12:47 pm. Icy roads contributed to accidents in each case, and a total of twelve (12) vehicles were involved, with most sliding off the roadway. In one instance a vehicle rolled over, but fortunately there were no significant injuries reported in any of the crashes. Five of the crashes occurred on Highway 101, with most of those in the north county area. One each occurred on Jerry's Flat Road, 80 Acres Road, and Cape Ferrelo Road. Oregon State Police and other law enforcement agencies responded to additional crash scenes not mentioned here, so it was a very busy day indeed.

Motorists should take great care when icy conditions are expected, as the road surface may be clear in one stretch while other sections are covered with

ice. This occurs because there may have been isolated hail, or the sun has only melted some sections and other areas remain iced.

For information on road conditions, weather, chains/traction devices, and winter driving tips, there is a wealth of information on the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Trip Check website, found at [www.tripcheck.com](http://www.tripcheck.com).

### This Week In The Garden By Jennifer Ewing

Seed racks are beginning to appear in stores and catalogs rest next to your favorite chair. You're pumped with that garden adrenalin and it's still too early to plant anything. What to do? I realize everyone doesn't get as revved up as I do about gardening, but you can humor me, can't you?

Get some scratch paper and a pencil with a good eraser on it. Sketch the garden

spaces that you have in your yard even if it's just containers. Draw in the existing plants that are there from last year, if any. (You Did plant garlic didn't you?) Now, start marking the areas where you want to plant this year's herbs, flowers and vegetables remembering not to plant the same thing in the same place as last year to avoid lingering diseases and pests that over-wintered. I'm sure you'll find the eraser handy.

Don't forget to take into consideration the fact that you may want to succession plant a few things, so leave some open space for that. This means if you plant lettuce in March or April, you will want to have space available in April or May to plant a second batch of lettuce so that when the first batch of lettuce is done, you will have more coming on and won't be without. Succession planting also works for radishes, carrots, beets, beans, broccoli, cabbage, bunching onions and more. Now...we're getting serious about this gardening thing!