

Public record
(Editor’s note: Police report will be discontinued for an unknown amount of time.)

From the Curry County Sheriffs’ log
On 09-23-08 at about 4:50 A.M, The Curry County Sheriff’s 911 center was notified of a high speed pursuit coming south on Hwy. 101 from Bandon after a 1999 white Chevrolet pickup was stolen from the “7-11” store in Coos Bay.
Reports from Coos County Sheriff’s office were that Coos County Sheriff’s Deputy Sean Kenning and Bandon Officers, Sergeant Larry Lynch and Officer Adam Slater were in pursuit of the stolen pickup at speeds to 100 mph South through Bandon.
Curry County Sheriff’s Sergeant Ted Longton, Port

Bandon Officer Slater and Sergeant Longton captured the driver after a short foot pursuit and the use of a ‘Taser’ ... officers ... took the passenger into custody without incident.

Orford Police Chief Mark Creighton and Port Orford Police officer John Fink took over the pursuit near mile post 298 and continued the pursuit through the city of Port Orford at speeds to 90 mph.
Officer Fink attempted to disable the fleeing vehicle near mile post 302, but the pickup evaded the spike strips.

Near mile post 317 the fleeing pickup swerved at an oncoming vehicle causing the vehicle to leave the roadway.
Near mile post 322 Sergeant John Ward of the Curry County Sheriff’s Office deployed tack strips causing three of the four pickup tires to shred. The pickup then turned East from Hwy. 101 onto Edson Creek Road

about seven miles North of Gold Beach and came to a stop and the driver fled into the brush leaving his passenger in the vehicle.
Bandon Officer Slater and Sergeant Longton captured the driver after a short foot pursuit and the use of a “Taser.”
Officers from Coos County, Port Orford Police and the Curry County Sheriff’s Office took the passenger into custody without incident.
Lodged in the Coos County jail on charges of Unauthorized Use Of A Vehicle, Attempt to Elude, Reckless Driving and Driving While Under The Influence Of Intoxicants was Michael Boyer, twenty-four of John Day, Oregon and his brother, Christopher Boyer, nineteen.

Candidates’ forum:
Bob Mielenz on the issues

There are at least three major issues facing the City of Port Orford.
First, the City’s aging water system. According to the City Manager, some of the piping dates from the 1950’s. It is simply wearing out; it has passed its expected life. One estimate of the cost of replacing all of the city water pipes is ten to twelve million dollars. It’s imperative we begin the task of finding funding to replace the system. If we do not, the city water system will fail. We are currently loosing massive amounts of water. The loss will only grow worse and cost more.
The second issue I would like to address is the payments for the “Lost” sewer system that was swept out to sea. The State and Federal government should “Forgive” that debt. This Country has, over the years, forgiven Billions of dollars to foreign governments and Countries. Starting with the rebuilding of Europe and continuing to this day. It has also poured millions of dollars into New Orleans and disaster relief for communities suffering from natural disasters. This was a natural disaster for this community. A winter storm destroyed the outfall. There has to be some way to relieve that debt and still assist the City with the repair of its water system.
The third issue to face this City is the poor business environment. One only has to look at the empty buildings and “For Sale” signs to see that the Business community is in trouble. A thriving business community means life and prosperity for all of us. Does anyone want to make a fifty or one hundred mile round trip to purchase everyday items. Much of the problem can be alleviated

by Tourism. Tourists support local businesses. Restaurants, motels, RV parks, Art galleries, Ray’s food store, the garage, gas stations, Circle K, etc. The money tourists spend in town supports the whole community. The services we all want from City Government will benefit from the money spent in town. The Chamber of Commerce is actively advocating for Port Orford, and needs to be supported by all of us. Advertising works and the Chamber has not received needed funds from the city “Bed tax” to effectively advocate for Port Orford. I hope to change this by allocating more money for the Chamber.
There is a contingent in town that resists growth or tourism. This strategy has worked in the past, but with the City water system in urgent need of repair, and all city services hurting from lack of funding, this outlook will no longer work. If we want good water, a good sewage system, clean streets, a Police department, then we need a healthy business community. Money spent in town re-circulates and helps everyone. Think of the disaster if the town deteriorates to the point that Ray’s decides that that it’s economically impractical to keep the store open. It could happen. It would just be a “business decision” for the company, but total disaster for all of us.
I hope to be part of a City Council that promotes all of these issues. I want to assist with finding solutions for these and many other problems that confront us all here in Port Orford. I choose to live here and I want all of us to succeed.
Sincerely,
Bob Mielenz:
Candidate for City Council.

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Due to a change in job assignments at the Port Orford News some changes in the subscription list; such as address changes, resubscriptions and new subscriptions are being enacted. I apologize to all affected subscribers and thank you for your patience.

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The 'Class of '62'

Contributed photo
Shown are John Celantano, Linda Houglum Celentano, Wayne Schmidt, Loney Kennedy, Sharon Wilson Schmidt, Don Hill, Daryl Robison, Vicki Buss Aird, Elaine Lang Jacobs, Charlotte Hill, Adella Wiechmann Robison, Cathy Woodworth and Ron Woodworth, the “Class of ‘62.” For more see story below in BRIEFS.

BRIEFS, from page 1

Many, many thanks to all who participated, worked so hard in very hot sun, and put the Butterfly/Hummingbird Garden to bed until next spring.
PHS class of ‘62 goes cruisin’
The Pacific High Class of ‘62 recently returned from a 7-day Alaska Cruise aboard the Ms. Amsterdam.
They departed from Seattle Sept.12, cruising to Juneau, Glacier Bay, Sitka, Ketchikan and Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. (See picture, this page) They returned to Seattle on September 19.
This was the first time on a cruise for most of those who went. It was truly a trip of a life time and enjoyed by all except for some brief periods of motion sickness.
League of Women Voters to hold ‘Home Rule’ forums
Three educational forums on the proposed Home Rule Charter for Curry County will be held in early October, sponsored by League of Women Voters of Curry County. On

No. 1 volunteer

PON photo by Matt Hall
Our No. 1 volunteer is Peter Rasmussen. Peter comes on all our bike rides. He fixes our flats, gives us bikes, and recently purchased our wonderful safety vests which make us feel like we're a real bike club! I know we wouldn't have nearly as much fun or as interesting and successful a program without him. “Driftwood Bikes” ride to science sites around town. This week the 6th and 7th graders are creating graphs and charts from their beach studies at BattleRock which include surveys of barnacles, birds, seaweed, and rocks.The 8th graders are making their charts and graphs from velocity and acceleration data we collected around town, including a stop at the Port Orford Senior Center where we received delicious healthy snacks and a tour of the Port Orford Education Garden by Jennifer. Thank you Peter, Jennifer, and Port Orford Senior Center, With sincere appreciation, Driftwood's Middle school math and science classes.

sored by League of Women Voters of Curry County. On

Monday, October 6, a forum will be held at Azalea Middle School in Brookings, 505 Pacific (next to Brookings-Harbor High School). On Tuesday, October 7, a forum will be held at Gold Beach City Hall Council Rooms, 29592 Ellensburg (Highway 101), the third forum will be Wednesday, October 8 at Port Orford City Hall Council Chambers, 555 W. 20th St. Each forum will begin at 7 p.m.
Each forum will have two speakers in favor of the Charter, alternating with two speakers in opposition. Speaking in favor at all three forums will be Ralph Martin of Harbor. Ian Maitland of Brookings will be the second speaker at the Brookings and Gold Beach forums and Kathy Reis of Brookings at the Port Orford forum. Speakers on the other side will be Lucie LaBonte, outgoing Curry County Commissioner (not running for re-election), and Captain Bob Rector, appointed officer in the Sheriff’s Department. Both will speak at all three forums and both live in the Gold Beach area.
Following the speeches, written questions from the audience will be answered by speakers. Each forum will be moderated by a member of the League of Women Voters and at each forum speeches and answers to questions will have a time limit.

Copies of the proposed charter are available at local libraries. Information is also available at www.currycountycharter.com The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization which encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government.
‘League of Women Voters’ forums for officeseekers set
Candidate forums for officeseekers at state, county, and city levels will be held by League of Women Voters of Curry County. Invitations have been sent to all candidates for contested seats.
The forums will be held Tuesday, Oct. 14 at Gold Beach City Hall, 29592 Ellensburg Ave. (Highway 101); Wednesday, Oct. 15 at Port Orford Library, 1425 Oregon Street (Highway 101); and Thursday, Oct. 16 at Chetco Library, 405 Alder Street, in Brookings.
All forums will begin at 7 p.m. Due to the number of candidates participating, back-to-back forums will be held in both Gold Beach and Port Orford. The first forum will present county and state candidates and will conclude by 8:30 p.m. A second forum will then begin for city candidates.

See BRIEFS, page 3

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