

Centered seniors

By Beverly Dunlap
For the Port Orford News

"To acquire knowledge, one must study; but to acquire wisdom, one must observe."
—Marilyn Vos Savant

OK! I will observe! The first thing I notice is we, as a nation are going into unemployment! I did my share, I retired. There is trouble, however, in finding anyone to do a job that needs doing? So I have continued to observe and think there are a few suggestions that may help us in our current crisis.

I made a telephone call yesterday and a stogy ole computer answered my call advising me that I had ten options. I listened carefully to all ten options and did not understand a couple of them, but not to worry, because one of those numbers and the entire thing would be read to me again. So I found that number and clicked 7. Ops that was the wrong number - which number got me into accounting. I played the list again, and again did not memorize all

the options. So I hung up and I was mad! Then I discovered that my mad had removed me from that blessed computer that was giving me all my options.

I waited till I calmed down, and dialed the 800 number again. The voice at the other end advised that my call would be answered in the same order as it had arrived. OK I can handle that! Wrong - 722 people had called before me and when I hung up, I had lost my place in that number! Grand, now I am feeling dumber and dumber! So I sat down at my computer to pass the time while I wait for my turn. Right before I fell asleep, a voice came on the line (a computer again) telling me my ten options! We have been here before!

Well I knew it wasn't 7, because I had tried that before. They did make an error, they said I could reply in voice! What a present - I bet you do not know what I said! I wouldn't want anyone to know. But I said it and among other things I said is that I wanted to talk to a human being! I am not sure, but I think I heard the

computer laugh!

I was on the phone for an hour and a half. The real people at the other end finally advised me that for the tidy sum of \$49, they would tell me how to solve the problem with my computer! In the meantime, they took control of my computer and asked all the questions in the world - I spelled Beverly at least three times. The human being they assigned to my call was from a foreign country and I could hardly understand him. But fix he did by telling me to hold down two buttons while hitting another. If was done and only cost me \$49.

Here is my point. If so many people are unemployed, why don't these large firms hire some of them to answer the phone, so at least the company would know why you are using their 800 number! Have you ever had this kind of a thing happen to you? I am sorry to complain, but high unemployment and computer answered telephone just does not make sense to this ole warrior!

Have a great week, and stay happy and don't call any computers!



PON photo courtesy Point Porford Historical Society/PON file photo

Shown above is one of the lifeboats from the Motor Lifeboat Station.

Life with Brice: '... you don't have to come back'

By Brice Wagner
PON staff writer

Port Orford's Motor Lifeboat Station, S. Coast guard, 1934 to 1970

"You have to go out but you don't have to come back" was the surfman's motto.

Pictured is one of two lifeboats stationed here at the Port Orford Cove Boathouse.

The boat crews negotiated 532 steps to get to the boathouse when they received a call.

During World War II there were over 100 coastguardsmen stationed here. Some private buildings were rented to put up the extra men that the heads station couldn't house.

The beaches were patrolled on foot by armed radio carrying coastguardsmen, with trained dogs accompanying them. There were also horse mounted coast guardsmen here patrolling the local beaches. On some coast areas the

men were allowed to don "logger tin pants and caulk (cork) shoes for comfort in the winter weather.

The Army had 50 men at Bandon stationed with jeeps and personnel carriers to be moved locally if needed.

The harbor entrances up and down the coast had large coastal gun emplacements, and concrete machinegun nests. There were 30 caliber machine guns here at Port Orford, and Cape Blanco. One private home's front yard features an old concrete pillbox that was a machinegun emplacement during WWII at Nesika Beach.

With the onset of helicopters and politics Port Orford lost its Coast Guard Station. The experts



Brice Wagner

deemed the local station unnecessary. For many years the old telephone poles with multiple wires were visible between Port Orford and Bandon close to the beach for communications between local coast guard stations including Cape Blanco Light and Loran Station. Back to be lifeboats - the early 36 footers were gas powered and would only do eight knots full throttle, then the coast guard repowered to reliable 36 footer's with a more powerful diesel engine.

When viewing the old boathouse location one is marveled as to how 36 footer could make it out of its location in a south storm with crashing swells/waves.

The concrete seawall that is built looks spectacular and still looks as sturdy as probably the days after first curing.

If you haven't seen this structure you are missing "a sight to see."

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both buildings to allow for better circulation between the buildings. This building can be built in three pods or modules of two stories each, one pod at a time, if necessary. Each module would have 5,200 square feet. The individual retail spaces would be left unfinished inside,

so that each retailer could finish their space appropriately. The price of the building would depend on now many of the three modules were built, with the base price being approximately \$838,000.

There would be three large parking/flex lots on the water-

front where the present bonenyard is and to the east of it. Area A, closest to the live fisheries and commercial retail buildings, would comprise 50,000 square feet of parking, accommodating about 120 vehicles. Area C, farthest east, would be utilized for a 20-space high-end market RV park, while Area B, about 37,500 square feet, would combine parking with pull-through space for large RVs to access the RV park. The entire area would be stabilized with a rip rap revetment, rather than a bulkhead. Some shrubs and the Fisherman's Memorial would probably be relocated. Short, aluminum light poles would be used to help minimize light pollution. The paving would be pervious, and swales would also be used to help with drainage.

Cheramy proposes a 110 x 140 foot L-shaped building for the Fifth and Washington property. Another building with "lots of windows," its first floor would consist of a large restaurant, commercial retail, and a brewpub. It was suggested at

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Tues.	51	33	30.00	0.00	3.98	14
Wed.	52	29	30.00	0.00	3.98	10
Thurs.	50	298	30.00	0.00	3.98	13
Fri.	51	29	29.90	0.02	4.00	10
Sat.	47	29	30.00	0.00	4.00	10

Weather statistics by DeBoyd Smith 7 a.m. to 7 a.m. - Sixes River, OR

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