

Senior Center news: Main Steet project is explained to seniors at April 28 meeting

By Jennifer Ewing
For the Port Orford News

We missed you at the April 28 meeting where a very informative program on the "Main Street USA" project that is being undertaken in Port Orford was

presented by Cheryl Morse.

At this meeting, the candidates names for new officers of the Senior Center were announced and they are as follows: President – Bill Dooley, Vice President – Duane Byers, Secretary – Micky Byers and Treasurer – Fred Zarlango. Ballots

are available at the Senior Center Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Please stop by and vote.

Led by Kathy Davis, a discussion was held concerning having some exercise classes at the Center on a regular basis. We talked about things like aero-

bics and general exercise classes. So, if you have a suggestion about an exercise class that you would like to attend at the Center, please call and let us know at 332-5771.

We would like to give a big thanks to our visiting cooks who prepared a fan-

tastic lunch of roasted pork, garlic mashed potatoes and gravy, applesauce, salad and pineapple upside-down cake. We all ate too much!

A heads-up to all. On Saturday, May 16, we will hold our community spaghetti dinner. Mark your calendar.

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city manager volunteering to meet with him to discuss law enforcement issues from perhaps a different perspective and to offer suggestions that might mitigate the tax burden on local residents for this purpose. I have 36 years experience in the field and have raised hundreds of thousands of non-tax dollars for a variety of police issues through the years. I appeared at the scheduled time, but your city manager was not there, nor did the city staff know where he was, or how to contact him. I left, came back thirty minutes after the scheduled appointment and still no city manager. A member of the city manager's staff said that it looked like I was "out of luck." Actually, from what I have read, and now experienced, the city might be out of luck, or almost so. I realize that I may not have all the answers, maybe none at all, but was willing to try and help. The fact that the city manager never called to reschedule or apologize for missing the meeting only amplified what appeared to be a very closed minded and unprofessional attitude. Again, I was willing to volunteer information that may not yet have been considered, all at no cost to the city.

I remain unconvinced that the city has explored every potential resource to address the issue of policing in Port Orford. Taxing residents, even if it is at a lower rate, is still taxing and is the easier less innovative way out of this problem. And it should only be done after all other possibilities have been explored or exhausted. People throughout this country are sick of being taxed, and more so about how their tax dollars are wasted. City leaders should have seized every opportunity to investigate all possibilities before settling on another tax levy. At least one of them didn't. Next time make the meeting.

Bob Hansohn,
Port Orford

Editor's note: I checked with Port Orford City Administrator Mike Murphy and was informed that the missed appointment happened on Feb. 20 of this year. Murphy was at a meeting in Gold Beach which ran over time and was late returning to Port Orford, inadvertently missing the appointment.

The police levy, again ...

A "heads up" may or may not be a good thing.

If it is based on incorrect information it is unfounded at best and dishonest at worst.

I am well acquainted with the extended coverage and liability provisions of a homeowners insurance policy. I am also well acquainted with the ratemaking process and know that the loss ratios of any tiny individual locale in a large statistical area are negligible in their effect on the final rates.

That being said, I would respectfully suggest that before we continue this tedious debate, that Mr. Marhol abandon his emotions and bias and fortify himself with a heaping helping of knowledge of the facts.

The police levy should stand or fall on it's own merits. Having "Chicken Little" running all over town shrilly screaming "The sky is falling! The sky is falling!" should not, in any way, be a determinant factor.

Respectfully

Jim Hajek,
Port Orford

A very sad problem

Curry County has a very sad problem – the proliferation of homeless cats. Cats and kittens have been abandoned, tossed into the woods to fend for themselves, thrown into dumpsters, over the bridge into the water in

sacks, dumped out on the road, left behind when their owners moved. Just yesterday a stray cat died of starvation despite the efforts of the good people at Anglers. Thank you for your help, Anglers. We are supposed to be a civilized and humane country, but doesn't that apply to the animals we have domesticated and then ignored?

Up to this time, only the dogs are cared for by public authority. The County would not let us take in cats at the dog shelter, even though we, as the Friends of the Curry County Rescue, would fund them.

For the last year we have directed our profits from our Ophir Thrift Store to help trap and neuter the stray and feral cats of the County. We have neutered over 100. We have helped people who cannot afford to neuter their cats, or who are working with us to trap colonies of feral cats. However, that is just the tip of the iceberg, there are many more fertile and helpless cats and kittens around.

Now, because we belong to humanity, the time has come to establish a humane shelter for homeless cats to alleviate their extreme suffering and starvation, a warm, dry place with food in which they can live. We have a couple of rooms in a building in Gold Beach we want to renovate for this purpose, but we need help and money. We need an organization to perpetuate our dream. If people will volunteer and we can form an ongoing group, we can have the building permanently.

We are so grateful to all of you for helping us with our mission of saving the animals by supporting our Ophir Thrift Store. Now we are excited about directing our efforts to the animals that the County Dog Shelter does not help. We plan to have a heated shelter with a small fenced in yard for the feral cats to roam. The City has approved the zoning for our cat sanctuary.

Would you like to be in on this, or do you know of anyone who would like to do this with us?

If so, please call one of us listed below.

The Friends of the Curry Animal Rescue, P.O. Box 232, Gold Beach, OR 97444:

Marisu Terry, Jim Newman, David Darnell, Clyde Myers, Ed Pendleton, Ursula Elliot, Gold Beach

Rude driver

Well people never cease to amaze me. Today one of those immature rude individuals who believe they are granted a supreme position in this town because they have lived here for more than 10 years or have grown up in this small community revealed their inability to interact well with others.

Now these people have no idea of the common courtesies of the road.

Rather than allow an individual to complete backing out of the driveway and moving on down the street, the rude immature person got as close to the other vehicle and then made hand gestures indicating their impatience in having to wait for an additional 15 seconds.

Al I can say in this writing is grow up and loose the rude immature attitude your ignorance is showing. You know who you are!

Stanley Thomas,
Port Orford

Editor's note: The following is a letter sent to a reader in response to a inquiry concerning global warming which has been shared with the PON readers.

Dear friend:

Thank you for contacting my office regarding legislation to reduce the emission of green-

house gases (GHG). I appreciate hearing from you.

I share President Obama's strong support for a federal mandate for reductions in GHGs in the United States and abroad. The science is clear that if we don't act soon, our planet will be in serious peril. In fact, many scientists claim that even with rigorous regulations, emissions since the Industrial Revolution have caused damage to our climate that could last hundreds of years. Further, I recognize the importance of creating a new energy economy through investment in renewable energy, new energy technology, and green jobs.

President Obama's approach for addressing reductions in GHGs would implement a cap-and-trade scheme to reduce emissions. This system would set pollution limits (the "cap") and distribute allowances to industry that can be bought and sold to meet emission targets (the "trade").

Frankly, I fear that a market-based approach such as a cap-and-trade scheme would reward market speculation over innovation. A cap-and-trade scheme is already in place in Europe and has largely been a failure. Last year alone, GHG emissions in Europe rose by 1.1%; that's three consecutive years of higher emissions. And emissions are increasing in Europe while investors and speculators make billions by buying and trading pollution credits. To this effect, I recently authored an op-ed piece that was published in the Oregonian that lays out my reservations of a cap-and-trade system. You can view the op-ed at the link below or by typing the text of the link into your internet browser: http://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2009/01/the_wron_g_road_to_reducing_emi.html

I think the most practical way to accomplish reductions in GHGs is through a regulatory approach. The Supreme Court already clarified that the Clean Air Act provides the Environmental Protection Agency with the authority to ratchet down GHG pollution levels and clean up our environment. We have been doing this for decades with other air pollutants like sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide, and everyone

agrees that it has been phenomenally successful. The same could be done with GHGs, such as carbon dioxide and methane.

A strong regulatory approach is proposed in the Clean Environment and Stable Energy Market Act of 2009 (H.R. 1683), of which I am a cosponsor. This bill would reduce GHGs by 80% over the next four decades by requiring producers of GHG emission substances (such as coal, petroleum, and natural gas) to buy pollution permits from the government. But these permits cannot be sold or traded ensuring there is no possibility for market speculation or manipulation. To further provide certainty and stability, the price of the permits would be set by the federal government, and a schedule of the permit prices will be published at least every five years. This provides predictability and certainty to American consumers and investors in renewable energy technologies. The number of permits for sale will decrease each year by a scheduled amount leading to the overall 80% reduction in GHG emissions by 2050.

As Congress and President Obama move forward in shaping policy to address climate change in 2009, I will keep your support in mind. There's no doubt that Congress needs to take bold new steps to reduce the emission of harmful greenhouse gases, but we must also guarantee that the method chosen is not subject to manipulation, doesn't discourage investment in new energy technologies, and isn't a burden on the consumer. That is why I support a regulatory approach over an unregulated market-based approach. I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress and the Obama Administration to bringing about a greener, cleaner, more energy efficient America.

Thanks again for contacting me. Please keep in touch.

Sincerely,
Rep. Peter DeFazio
Fourth District, Oregon

'Old timer' for Marsh, Wagner

Being an old timer on Elk River, I want to support Joe Marsh and Brice Wagner for the Fire District Director positions coming up.

My husband the late Ed Conley, Jim Carter, George Gehrke, and Brice Wagner carried the petitions around to get the Fire district started many years ago.

Marsh Ranch donated land to put the two Elk River buildings on.

Esther M. Conley
Elk River Road
Port Orford

Another voter for Marsh and Wagner

Have known and lived next to Joe Marsh and Brice Wagner for many years. I can't think of a better pair to be on our Port Orford Rural Fire District Board of Directors.

Kathie Conner
Elk River
Port Orford

Support the police levy

So, what's it to be? This month we're being asked whether we want police protection in our community or whether we're just going to "wing it" and wait for the Sheriff.

Remember just a few years ago when traffic didn't slow down going through town; when meth was a growing problem; when mischief often got out of hand? Do we want to go back to that now, at a time when desperation is increasing throughout our country?

Critics of the cost of local police protection need to consider some facts. Based on an analysis of the 2008-2009 budget document, the net cost to taxpayers incurred by our police department and municipal court was \$206,427 - paid by a Police Levy of \$128,162 and a net transfer from the General Fund to the Police Fund of \$78,265.

Total cost of Police and Court was \$407,799. (Court = \$104,365; Police = \$303,434.) Court revenue from citations and related activity totaled \$161,100. Police revenues included the levy of \$128,162; grants, \$10,000; donations \$12,000; and miscellaneous income plus cash forward, \$18,272. The General Fund contribution was \$78,265 plus \$56,735 excess citation revenue from the court - an excess which would not exist without officers patrolling the highway.

So, what's it to be? A new,

less expensive, levy costing 40 cents a day per person for 24/7 police protection; or each of us on our own to deal with old problems and the onslaught of new ones?

Please vote yes on the Police Levy.

Erna Barnett
Port Orford

Praise for Chief Wilcox

In June 2003, six months before the previous Fire Chief resigned, I was elected to the Port Orford Rural Fire Protection Board.

At that time there were 17 active firefighters, today there are 17 active firefighters; there were 2 wild land certified firefighters, today there are 9; there were 0 (zero) 1st responders, today there are 7; not everyone was compliant with all State-mandated classes (Hazmat, CPR, etc), today our firefighters are compliant.

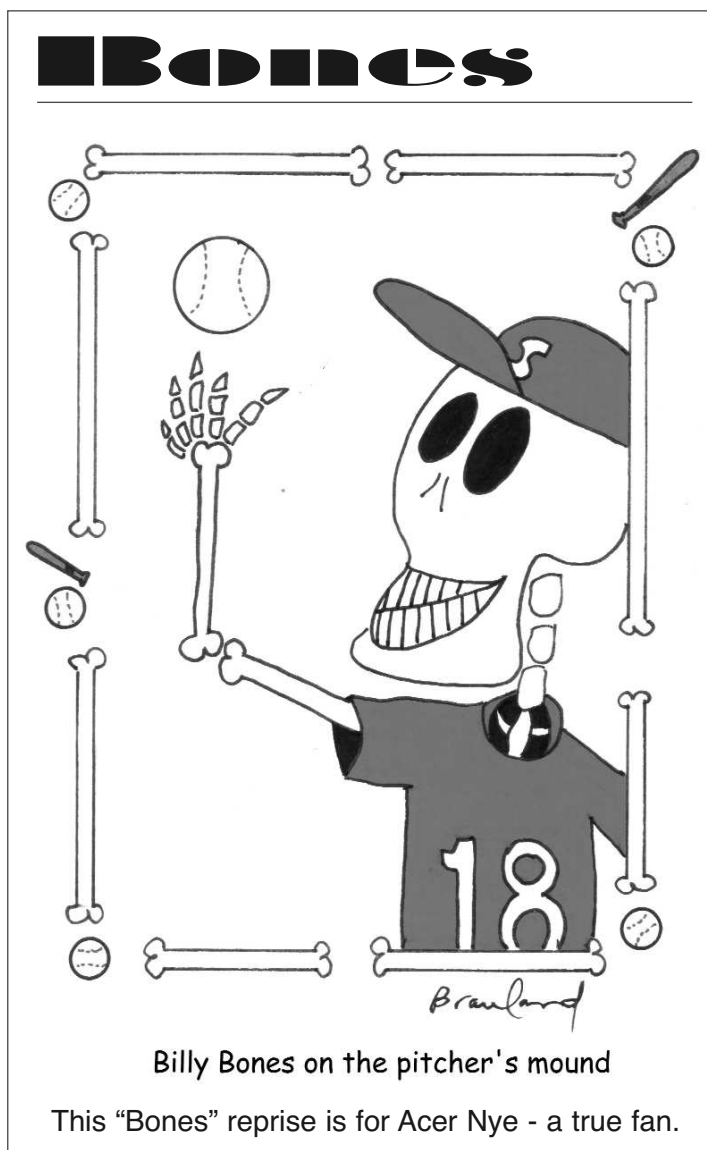
At that time the accounting system was virtually non-existent with no easy way to track how we were doing with expenditures vs. budgeted amounts. In July 2002, we began using Quicken and can track almost anything we want to know financially.

At that time we were using old extrication tools (Jaws) designed to be used on airplanes (military surplus equipment); in February 2004 we purchased a new set of Jaws, with multiple attachments designed for vehicles. Half of this cost was offset with a generous donation.

At that time firefighter training was not mandated; and the Chief was voted for by other firefighters. In January 2006 a Policy Manual was written following ORS guidelines, which among other things, requires that the Board appoint the Chief.

At that time the rescue truck was an old pickup with a tarp to cover the equipment needed to carry in the bed; in January 2007 we were finally able to purchase our current, well equipped Rescue vehicle. Much of this was made possible with local donations of approximately \$30,000 and there is still currently over \$140,000 in the growing Equipment Reserve

See LETTERS page 6



Billy Bones on the pitcher's mound

This "Bones" reprise is for Acer Nye - a true fan.

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Wine, Art & Music Festival**

Wine

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**Event Center on the Beach
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Contact the Gold Beach Chamber of Commerce
For more information
541-247-0923 www.goldbeachchamber.com

Gold Beach Chamber of Commerce

2nd annual Pacific High School Scramble

A four person team scramble. All proceeds for the event go to the Pacific High sports programs, soccer, volleyball, x-country, boys and girls b-ball, track.

Date: Sat. May 23rd
Time: 10:00 am shotgun start
Place: Bandon Crossings
Cost: \$90.00 per person (includes golf cart, tee gift, range balls before the tourn, continental breakfast, post round meal, contests and prizes. Special: Giving away a car from Verger Christler, Plymouth, Dodge, and Jeep for the first hole in one on hole #7.

Contact Chris or Jim at the Crossings golf course 347-3232, or pick applications up at Chetco federal Credit Union in Port Orford form Norma Anderson.
Thank you so much for your help.
Please come help support Pacific Sports.