

Viewpoints

Letters to the editor

Help sought for ‘Driftwood kids’

When our students return to school next fall, they will be entering a shining, safe, and warm school. Projects are on track for a new heating system, computer lab, playshed storage and renovation, removal of the old unsafe chimney, playground improvements, and many other smaller projects. Federal stimulus money plays a large part in making this possible, but the School District must contribute to the cause, and the budget will be stretched. We need your help desperately.

Work parties are being organized for painting, light construction, landscaping, and many other smaller jobs that will help with the beautification of the school and grounds.

There are ways everyone can help. Volunteering for work parties, recruiting volunteers, donations of expertise, equipment use, materials, cash, or just spreading a word of support is so valuable and much appreciated.

If you can pledge an hour, a day or help in any way, please call Mick Lane at 348-2337. Our school will look vibrant and inviting with your assistance, and our kids will spend their days at a facility they, and the entire community can be proud of.

Thank you so much.

Mick Lane,
2CJ Superintendent

Thanks for help in clean up

Thank you volunteers @ Driftwood wetland.

We had a fantastic turnout of student and community volunteers removing non-native species from the wetland behind Driftwood May 16th.

Last Friday students and volunteers again worked with Greg Ryder from the state parks to haul the debris away from Driftwood.

Thank you students, volunteers and particularly Cathy Boden for all her coordinating of these events.

The wetland has become really fun with lots of trails to adventure through.

Kim Nye
Driftwood Elementary,
Port Orford

Thanks to police for help

Karen & I were alerted by a neighbor on Saturday morning of an incident involving two trespassers on our property disturbing a nest on the cliff below our home on Coast Guard Hill.

They were seen with a black bag reaching into the nest containing baby birds. We called 911 to report the incident and were pleased at the prompt response of our Port Orford Police Department.

Reserve Corporal Tyson

Send your letters, thanks, cheers and jeers to portorfordnews@gmail.com.

All letters must have a name, address and phone number for contact questions. Please keep your comments and arguments empirical - and please show respect for the opinions of others in this, your open forum. Thank you.

— Matt Hall, Editor, Port Orford News

Breuer responded within five minutes and competently and professionally investigated the incident. He managed to confront two of the perpetrators and gather the necessary information.

We will file formal charges unless it is found that the nest is intact with the baby birds.

We are glad to have a Police Department and Reserve Force that can respond to such incidents and potentially more dangerous ones as promptly and efficiently. Thank you Corporal Breuer for a job well done!

Jim & Karen Auburn,
Port Orford

‘Dark sky, one light at a time ...’

With the cost of electricity slated to increase, now is the time to reevaluate your lighting needs. Dusk to dawn yard lights cost approximately \$12 per month to operate now and much more if they are stuck in the on position, turn them off, save money and the night sky. If you

are new to Port Orford, or wondered why you can see the Milky Way at night in town, the following is a brief history.

Kalmiopsis Audubon Society in cooperation with Coos Curry Electric Cooperative (CCEC), the City of Port Orford, and the Port of Port Orford embarked on a project to reduce “sky glow” over Port Orford in 1999. The primary goal was to educate the community and retrofit 100 old mercury vapor lights, privately owned or leased from CCEC, with a modern shade that directs the light to the ground and a task. Sky glow is the amber glow on the horizon that is visible from miles away as you approach nearly every city on the planet. The “glow” is caused by light that is escaping above horizontal. Inside the “glow” the night sky is greatly diminished, to the point in many large cities, only the brightest celestial body the moon is visible.

Mercury vapor lights are responsible for the vast majority

of this escaped light. Ubiquitous and cheap, they are known as “yard lights”, or dusk to dawn “security lights”; designed more than 60 years ago for a different time. This light has a lens that allows light to be emitted above the horizontal, causing sky glow and glare. Light trespass into neighboring yards and bedroom windows is another quality of life issue that can be address by retro fitting these lights with a skylcap. Modern fixtures on highways and in parking lots are now designed to “cutoff” the light from escaping above horizontal, reducing glare and directing the light to the ground. Proper lighting saves energy, reduces glare, protects the night sky, and makes a good neighbor.

Sky glow is a problem that can be solved with education; retro fitting lights with skylcaps, building homemade shields, lighting signs from above, point flood lights down, use lower wattage bulbs for external or internally lit signs, turning off lights when they are not needed and reevaluating lighting needs. Many businesses turn their signs off at night to save energy dollars and will make it a practice if asked. There are over 125

skylcaps up in the Port Orford area now, and many people have turned off or removed their out of date yard lights.

Nationally there are dark sky states, counties, cities, and sky parks. In Oregon, there are seven cities, Sisters, Juniper, and Sandy to name three, and Deschutes County with dark sky ordinances. Internationally there are dark sky nations, cities, and sky parks. This movement started with astronomers in Arizona wanting to protect the study of the night sky and that spread quickly to people simply wanting to enjoy the night sky from their backyard. International Dark-Sky Association goals are to reduce sky glow, glare, and light trespass.

“Without the inspiration of starlight and the night, much of the world’s science, literature, art, and music would not exist.”

Imagine that. For more information see International Dark-Sky Association www.darksky.org, or Dark Sky Northwest www.scn.org/darksky/ pr gpt tp <http://kalmiopsisaudubon.org>.

Albert & Joan Geiser,
Port Orford

To be continued ... by Pastor Doug Jamieson

Have you ever heard the cliché; "I've got your back?" I have been told by earlier mentors' that in your entire lifetime you probably will not have more than a few friends that qualify as true.

In my short 55 years I believe to have mustered up more than that. Ones that, no matter what, I can call on in the time of need, whatever that may be.

When I was a teenager the cliché was true to me. Between my freshman and sophomore years, I had lots of classmates that I respected, but never had the opportunity to just hang around them. There was one such individual that was a friend that would "watch my back" no matter what.

We conquered the world together, combing the mountains, streams, canyons, and almost everywhere imaginable south of Port Orford and up into the mountains. From time to time I camped out at his place and he camped at mine. We would plan out our next days exploration, hiking who knows how far every day, and always home in time for dinner.

Mom cooked of course. Then there was his Grandmother. When we were at his house, she would cook to spoil us. Mashed

potatoes and venison, or fresh crab, not to mention fresh smoked salmon right out of the smoke house. They were meals and times one should never forget.

Some-times I wonder why we have to grow up. But we did.

I met a lady, and he met a lady, and you can guess the future scenario of our lives.

He went his way and I went mine, moving away from town and not returning for years.

But, you know what? I'll bet he's still got my back, and I certainly have his.

His Grandmother was Lotty



Doug Jamieson

Smith(Forty), and this man with no name is my old friend (and I hope till I die) his old friend, Ray Smith.

I no longer camp out on his doorstep, nor does he camp on mine, but there is a silent respect that was cemented together in our earlier years.

We are friends, and no matter what has happened in our lives between high school and now, that bond is still important in my life.

Our workloads today often separate us for periods of time, but a cup of coffee and a few hours of reminiscing can rekindle a past that has never been forgotten.

We tried to help each other stay out of trouble, and for that important time in our lives, we were successful.

Together with our good friends we can help each other stay on the right track.

To be contd ...

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Pets of the Week at the Curry County Animal Shelter Lady & Sarg'



The Curry County Shelter would like to express it's gratitude for all the support the community has done to help our shelter to maintain a humane sanctuary for our furry friends in this past year. Please continue to support us as our residents appreciate all you can do. Thanks for all your support. Lady is a 5 year old Border Collie mix. She loves kids and has no problem mingling with either dog or cats. Lady is pretty low key and would love nothing better than being part of your family. She is a medium sized dog and is spayed. Sarg is a young pup. He is about 9 months old and is a Golden Retriever/Lab mix. This guy is cute and cuddly and is the dog you want to grow your family. Sarg is looking for that special human who will give him a good home and a bright future.

PLEASE LICENSE YOUR DOG! IT HELPS YOU AND YOUR DOG SHOULD IT BECOME LOST AND THE FUNDS HELPS THE SHELTER!!

Pet of the Week NEEDS SPONSORS! Anyone who would like to help sponsor Pet of the Week please call Matt Hall at (541) 260-3638. For adoption info call (541) 247-2514

Sponsored by Little Shop of Horrors, Geoff Trotter & Bridget



Lance Nix & Cromwell



GRAD, from page 1

stage they were cited and honored, scholarships were presented and Commencement Address speaker, the Rev. Mark Newman quoted from a “Dr. Suess” book - and it all made sense.

Finally they stood and came forward individually to receive their diplomas.

The stands rocked, smiles wreathed faces. Mothers and fathers beamed.

And, pronounced graduates, hats were tossed into the air and hugs and handshakes spread everywhere.

Later, outside the gymnasium final moments were stolen – best wishes were wished, and wished again.

And the evening ended. But for the 21 members of the PHS Class of 2009, something new had just begun.

Best wishes.

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North Curry County Church Directory

St. Christopher Episcopal Church
Sunday Holy Eucharist 10 a.m.
417 Ninth St.
(Behind Fun Zone)
(541)332-0998

Port Orford Christian Center
Come celebrate the Lord with Pastor Doug Jamieson.
Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning11 a.m.
Sunday Evening.....5 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.
10th & Washington
(541)332-2561

St. John's Catholic Church
Sunday8:30 a.m.
Wed.9 a.m.
Hwy. 101 & 15th St.
Port Orford, OR
(541)253-6250

First Community Church
2025 Jackson St.
(541) 332-3664
Worship Service 11 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Zion Lutheran Church
Bible Study at 10 a.m., Worship at 11 a.m.
“God’s work, our hands ...”
Pastor Tim Carraher

2015 Washington (541)332-3581

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Port Orford Branch
20th & Jackson
332-5501

Langlois Community Church

“Where the Word of God is Proclaimed”
Pastor Rick House ♦ Youth Pastor Kyle Busenitz
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. ♦ Sunday Worship - 10:45 a.m.
♦ Wed. Bible Study - 7 p.m. ♦ Nursery provided
Hwy. 101 in Langlois ♦ (541) 348-2301

What's for Dinner?

* Salads?
* Pizza?
* Pasta?
* Steaks?
* Fresh Fish?

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