

Viewpoints

Letters to the editor

Help where needed ...

How many people suffer from severe pain from a medical problem and are using dangerous painkillers with dangerous side affects?

Voter Power and Pacific Medical Marijuana Services are here in town to help you with your health needs. Call Russ at (541) 425-5028

I was surprised how fast I was able to see a Doctor and become a legal medical marijuana user after a life time of pain. I can now stop the pain and live a life pain free.

Rev. Christine Richardson, D.D., Port Orford

Taking responsibility ...

This is in response to the "Port Orford Not Immune", article. We cannot just let this town stay in denial about the drug problem. Moreover, we cannot pussyfoot around the issue either.

This is not new news to a whole bunch of people, particularly the drug user themselves. Those who say you did not know, I beg to differ. You just needed a wake up call. You knew there was a problem you just did not have your finger on the right one.

The clues are (an) increase in thief, domestic violence, absenteeism in schools, child abuse, sex abuse. Increase in violent action by normally non-violent people. Increase in Property damage. Respect for authority and/or the law enforcement agencies in decline.

Denying that we have a drug

problem, or the fact that our children have seen us abuse and misuse drugs (Prescription, Non-Prescription, Alcohol or Illicit Drugs). Don't you realize they are only following our example? Just because you were not caught doing these things, do you feel you are not responsible for their actions to some degree?

These programs may be in existence, do they need some kind of reform? Therefore, making them fit our community. I would be willing to help, would you?

No.1 Form a group willing to help of non-using (drug tested) people that have a true concern for our community. It takes of community to raise a child.

No. 2 A confidential 24 hour drug crisis line for and run by local people.

No. 3 Non-judgmental safe places to find and get help for the people that are willing to address their addiction(s). Do not just turn them in and prosecute them.

No. 4 Reviews to implement a more aggressive drug prevention group in our schools, then follow-up with the children more often.

I know that you all are not on drugs or with our heads in the sand. I know that there are many people in this town already working on this problem. However, we need to step up. They need more help. We need to "Take responsibility."

Kathleen M. Meeker, Port Orford

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

A bad experience ...

I would like to share an experience that I had in your town a couple of weeks ago. My brother and I were on a cycling adventure riding our bicycles from Canada to Mexico and happened upon the Paradise Café one morning. We had been riding for a couple of hours and were ready to have a hearty breakfast.

We entered the café and took our seats in a booth where we were approached by a local young man in a white cowboy hat. He, for some unknown reason began to tell us what he thought of "road bikers" as he called us. He said, "What I don't like about road bikers is that they are all a bunch of faggots."

It took all of my self control not to get up and beat the crap out that little redneck but I decided that I didn't want to spend any time in your local jail so we simply left the café and went on our way without any breakfast.

The only bad memory that I have from our entire journey is of the morning when we were so rudely treated in your

town. This incident reflects very poorly on your town and the entire state of Oregon. I will not be returning to Port Orford again and I am telling all of my friends to stay away from your town too.

Sincerely,

*Kerry Vanderzalm
Surrey, BC, Canada*

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Pets of the Week at the Curry County Animal Shelter 'Buck & Gretchen'



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.

Buck just arrived and what a great dog he is. He has been well cared for and at 9 years old he will fit in with just about any home situation. Buck is a Labrador Retriever and is neutered. Buck is looking and deserves a good retirement home.

Gretchen is a young 11 month American Staffordshire Terrier. If you are looking for a dog under a year Gretchen is the one for you. She is a lot of fun but is learning her manners so with a little training she has a lot of potential. She needs a good family that will spend the time with her and give her the attention and training she deserves. She is a lover.

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

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To be continued ... by Pastor Doug Jamieson

There are many creatures that live in or around our neighborhoods. From little tiny creepy crawling bugs to large bear.

But, one of the most mysterious animals that I have witnessed in this neck of the woods is the Cougar.

I have talked with many people who have seen the big beautiful cats, but only three times have I been graced enough to actually see them myself.

One winter night returning home up Hubbards Creek with my mother, this graceful cat came down from the bank, crossed the road in front of our headlights and disappeared over the hill into the timber.

It was huge!

It seemed that the body and tail took up a large percentage of the road.

After that experience, whenever I walked on the road or through the woods to Grandma's house, I was reminded of our mostly unseen predator.

Although I have seen tracks and scat many times since then, there were only two other instances that I was able to see the big animal.

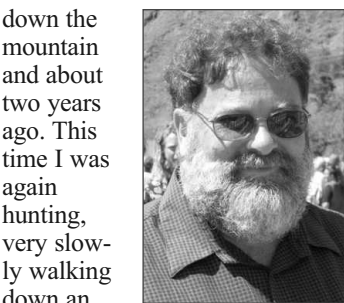
About seven years ago, up Grassy Knob Road, and just below the National Forest boundary, there is a logging road that snakes along the lower ridge, and made for a nice walk during hunting season.

I was so inclined that particular year in October. I had walked to the end of the road (about half a mile), and slowly made my way back towards the main road. When I reached the last major bend in the road, I looked to where my pickup was parked and noticed something part way down the old road where I had earlier walked.

He had his head down as if sniffing my trail. After carefully approaching the edge of the road to get a better picture, I could tell it was a big golden brown Cougar.

As quickly as it was seen, it must have noticed me and headed right over the small ravine and disappeared. I never saw or heard it again.

My last excursion was near the same area except lower



Doug Jamieson

down the mountain and about two years ago. This time I was again hunting, very slowly walking down an old logging road, coming to a sweeping bend, hill on my left and oak thicket on the right. Suddenly, and a startle for both of us, the largest Cougar I have ever seen darted swiftly across the road in front of me and then spread its entire body out and lunged into the oak thicket. It took me about two seconds to register what was happening in front of my own eyes.

I had caught the big cat unaware, and it had caught me by surprise. We were no more than thirty feet apart.

This cat was unlike the other ones that I had seen. Its color was more of an amber, with the solid black end on the tail. The body was somewhere around five feet, and the tail just about as long. The look on his face

was also interesting. It was like he was broadcasting a message: He did not want to be seen.

As soon as he lunged into the oak thicket I was at the edge looking over to try and see or hear him again. Nothing! Even though it was dry and the leaves were all over the ground, I didn't see or hear this Cougar again.

For about three minutes I stood and listened. Then, the hair on the back of my neck gave this funny sensation, and I slowly backed away.

Seconds! That is all I had.

Three seconds is about all you have to protect yourself against this wary critter.

Although I didn't feel this cat was hunting me, that picture could change in a moment. You are on their turf, and most of the time they know what's happening around them.

I do not write this to discourage anyone from the beauty of our mountain trails, but only to make us aware that we may not be alone.

I hope on another day, sometime in the future, I may see another one of these beautiful creatures in their natural habitat. It is indeed breathtaking.

To be cont'd ...

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PON photo by Matt Hall

Phil Colozzi, left, and Frank Smith of American Legion Post 76 are shown escorting "the colors" from the annual Blessing of the Fleet held Saturday. For more, see story on page 1 and more pictures on page 8.

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

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* Pizza?

* Pasta?

* Steaks?

* Fresh Fish?

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