

# One good turn: Lake Oswego cop recovers stolen Seaside bike

By ANTHONY MACUK  
Lake Oswego Review

LAKE OSWEGO — When Chuck Lambert and his wife, Cheryl, decided to spend a weekend in Seaside last month, they say they were looking forward to a fun-filled three-day getaway. But after just one night at the coast, they discovered that Chuck Lambert's bicycle was missing.

Despite being secured in the back of his truck on the fourth floor of a gated parking garage, the bike had been stolen during the night.

"Unfortunately, there were stairs on the outside that I didn't know about," Lambert says.

So he headed to the Seaside Police Station to file a report with the officer on duty — and there he met John Brent from Lake Oswego.

Brent was one of five Lake Oswego officers who volunteered in Seaside that day, freeing up the town's own police officers to attend the funeral for Seaside officer and Sherwood native Sgt. Jason Goodding. Goodding was shot and killed on Feb.



After Chuck Lambert (left) had his bike stolen while on vacation in Seaside, Lake Oswego Police Officer John Brent helped him track it down. Brent was one of five Lake Oswego officers who volunteered at the coast last month so that Seaside police could mourn the loss of Sgt. Jason Goodding.

Anthony Macuk/Lake Oswego Review

5 while attempting to serve a felony warrant.

Brent took down Lam-

bert's report and gave him his own contact information. But there wasn't much

else that could be done at the time, he told the Port Orchard, Washington, resident, espe-

cially since Lambert didn't know the bike's serial number. Lambert says the bike model in question retails for \$600, although he had fixed it up with numerous aftermarket additions and modifications, including a new seat, extended handlebars, headlights and a mounted tool bag.

"I took the report and tried to console him," Brent says. "I said, 'Let your vacation go on.'"

When the Lamberts returned home to Port Orchard, Chuck Lambert began searching through sale listings on Craigslist, hoping to catch the thief attempting to unload his bike. He says he searched in Seaside and a number of other coastal Oregon cities, with no luck. And then, on a whim, he decided to check the Portland page.

"The guy was nice enough to put seven pictures on there," Lambert says.

Thanks to the aftermarket modifications, Lambert easily identified his bike in a Portland-area post. He called Brent in Lake Oswego, and the officer quickly collaborated with two detectives to set up a sting operation.

The detectives posed as

buyers and set up a meeting with the Craigslist seller, and then Brent joined them in confronting the seller and recovering the bike.

"The true detective in this case is Chuck, because he found the bike on Portland Craigslist," Brent says.

According to Brent, the case is still under investigation and is being referred to the District Attorney's Office. He says he can't comment on whether the Craigslist seller was the same person who stole the bike in Seaside or just an accomplice.

Unfortunately for Lambert, the aftermarket components were all removed before the sale meeting. But the bike itself was still in good condition, and the Lamberts drove down from Port Orchard to pick it up on March 2.

Brent and Lake Oswego Police Chief Don Johnson were both on hand to return the bike, and Johnson awarded Brent the Chief's Coin for "going beyond" in the performance of his duties.

"Brent was very accommodating down (in Seaside)," says Lambert. "He was the nicest guy on the planet."

# Drones: 'We're waiting for the first crash ... we know it's going to happen'

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"If I want to take this thing to Mexico, I would have to fill out all the same forms if I was going to take a real aircraft to Mexico," Gage said.

The Federal Aviation Administration, which regulates U.S. aircraft, recommends users inform the airport or tower within 5 miles. "That's not a requirement, it's a recommendation," Gage said.

Gage said the 5-mile limit "is pretty severe for small airports."

Gearhart resident John Dudley asked the commission "to balance restrictions and regulations with sane use of the drones."

"Where we live in Little Beach, there are a lot of short-term rentals, and we've seen a number of people who are there for a day or two or three with drones, and they're in and they're out," Dudley said. "They're there to have fun, but often they abuse the privileges and don't respect other people or other things, that would be doubly hard to control, to advise those people."

**FAA RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Fly below 400 feet and remain clear of surrounding obstacles.
- Keep the aircraft within visual line of sight at all times.
- Remain well clear of and do not interfere with manned aircraft operations.
- Don't fly within 5 miles of an airport unless you contact the airport and control tower before flying.
- Don't fly near people or stadiums.
- Don't fly an aircraft that weighs more than 55 pounds.
- Don't be careless or reckless with your unmanned aircraft — you could be fined for endangering people or other aircraft.

**LEARN MORE**

FAA recommendations: <http://1.usa.gov/1p5OAvI>  
 FAA hobby/recreational do's and don't's: <http://1.usa.gov/1LFNKzxx>  
 Know Before You Fly campaign: <http://knowbeforeyoufly.org>



Submitted Photo

Dan Sealy of Brevin's Fudge used his drone to take a picture of the Astoria Sunday Market in 2014.

Henderson pulled the conversation back. "We need to try to stick to what effects they're going to have at the airport," he said.

Henderson said he did not want the airport committee to end up "being a sounding board for people's complaints of drones peeking in people's windows."

He and other committee members said they sought a way to provide for drone users

to register their flight plans with the city.

Seaside Public Works Director Dale McDowell said he didn't want "people calling me on a Sunday morning saying I want to fly my drone."

He recommended those calls be directed to police dispatch.

Committee member Bruce Francis agreed police dispatch would be more practical than notifying the city or the airport.

"That's a very easy way to overcome this problem. Because dispatch is there 24 hours a day. That way you know you've met the 'burden' requirement, because it's logged in with an official," Francis said. "If it ever comes to the lawsuit — we're waiting for the first crash — and we know it's going to happen — you've got it logged in."

Seaside Municipal Airport is a small paved airstrip. It is considered usable by light single engine and twin aircraft only. The airport is used by local pilots and "flightseeing" operations.

Henderson said he wanted to take a wait-and-see attitude as pilots nationwide issue policy. "Everybody's kind of

wondering; they have all the same questions," Henderson said. "I'm hoping some sort of guidelines come out of the Oregon Pilots Association that are flexible and have measures that would apply to small-, medium- and high-traffic airports, so cities could know what to say. We really don't have anything to this point."

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