

Friends, neighbors seeks to cover funeral expenses of Ann Knoxx

Transient resident loved animals, nature

By Eve Marx
Seaside Signal

Ann Knoxx was fond of Doogers in Warrenton where she often got a sandwich. She was a regular at Les Schwab Tire Center in Seaside. They knew her at Providence Seaside Hospital where she sometimes posted she was "feeling pained." Rain, even torrential rain, didn't faze her and she said she preferred the cool summer climate of the north Oregon coast over California heat.

"She was drawn to the coast because she loved the ocean," her friend Donna Sue McGuire said. "The sea was her thing."

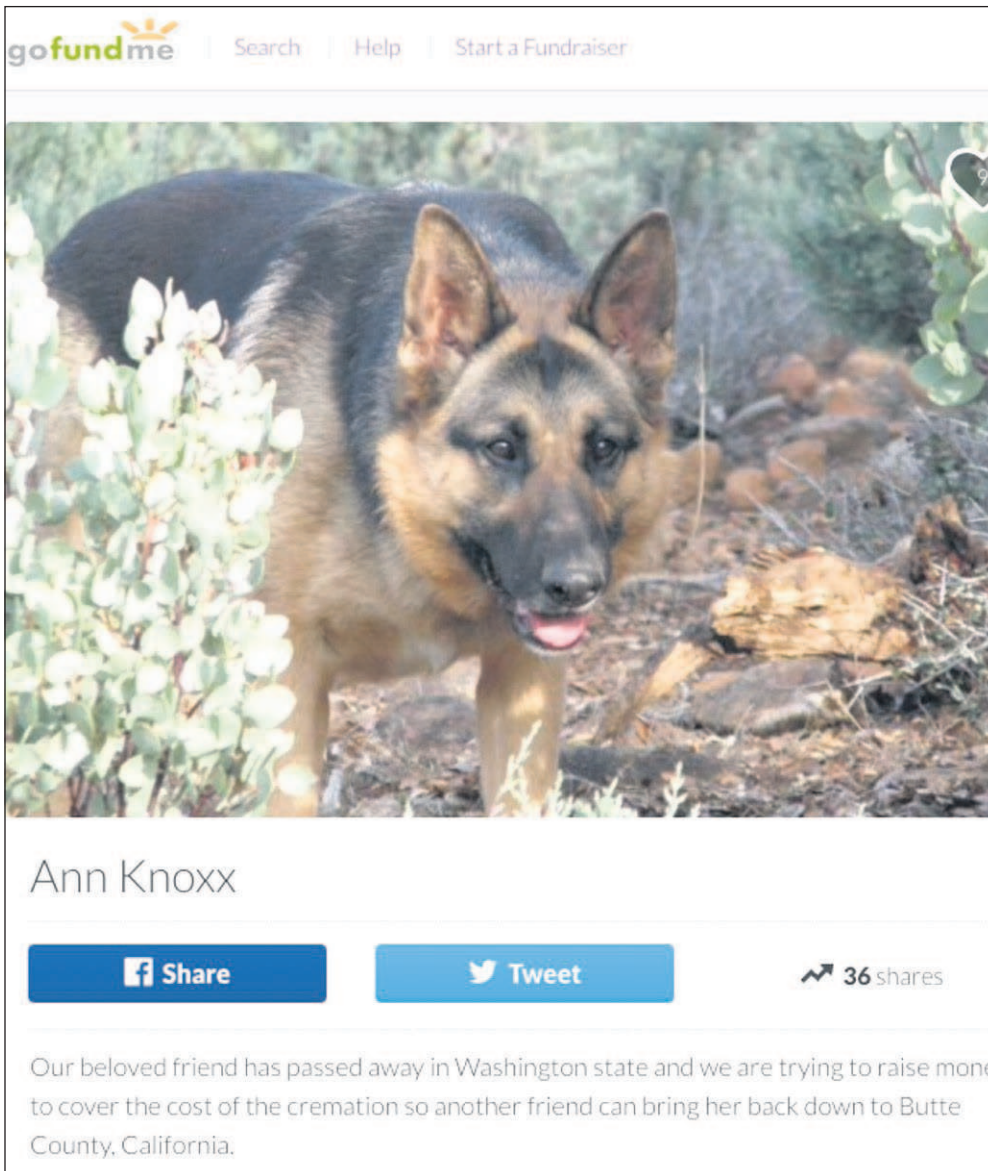
Last week a small contingent of friends of Ann Knoxx learned of her death. Knoxx, a regular at the By The Way Café and Gift Shop in Gearhart, died in Thousand Trails, Washington, her favorite campground. She was 67 years old. A Gofundme campaign aims to raise \$1,000 to send her remains back to her native California.

Knoxx, who lived a transient lifestyle in the South County, traveled with her dog, Renee, from campground to campground. Last year she and the dog lived in a tent Linda Goldfarb, the owner of By The Way, purchased for her.

"I am sad to hear about Ann," Goldfarb wrote on Facebook within hours of learning of Ann's death. "She and I became friends about two years ago while she was staying in Gearhart. Just a month of so ago she helped me plant flowers and paint some things at my shop. She always had a smile and she had a heart of gold."

"She was going to teach me how to make butternut squash ravioli," said Bobbi Pigeon, a regular at the cafe. "One day when we were all sitting here having coffee, I mentioned some wonderful pre-made pasta they used to carry at Freddy's that they haven't had in stock for months. I said I needed to learn how to make it from scratch. Ann said it was easy and offered to make it for me, but said she would have to wait until it wasn't raining. I said 'You don't make pasta in the rain?' That's when she said she couldn't make pasta inside her tent."

Knoxx was from Chico, California, and graduated from Chico High School. Soon after she left Chico, she set out to explore the world. She worked as a longshoreman. She rode bulls in rodeo.



Ann Knoxx's beloved dog Renee is featured on the cover of a gofundme page on her behalf.

She was employed as a driver for many years for the California outfit Jackson RV transporters. She was a member of the California Labor Union. McGuire, who owned the company, said she met Ann in the early 1990s and they became close friends.

"She had driven a truck prior to when we hired her," McGuire said. "She worked for us for quite a few years. We developed a great friendship. We had an office in Riverside and she had an RV. She parked it at my cabin in Paradise and helped me out there. She lived there for about a year and a half."

McGuire said Knoxx died of complications from diabetes. "She had no money and couldn't pay for her medicine," McGuire said. "So many people say they would give you the shirt off their back. Ann would do anything for you. She was that kind of person."

McGuire said Knoxx had lots of female friends. "She loved classical music. She loved opera. She loved hard work and she loved the outdoors and she loved RV-ing. She loved to scuba dive. She loved riding motorcycles. She loved art. She loved a cold beer. Most of all she loved animals and the ocean. She was

very connected to the natural world."

McGuire said that Knoxx often said besides her German shepherd, Renee, she felt alone in the world.

"Her parents were dead," McGuire said. "She had no siblings or cousins. She called me every week but when I didn't hear from her, I became worried."

Knoxx was found deceased by a park ranger in the RV McGuire sold to her last winter. At the time of her death she was camping in Thousand Trails, Washington. Her dog, Renee, was temporarily homed with the ranger.

"They say you pick your family and Ann had family in California," McGuire said. "She had a lot of friends here. She might show up at five houses for Thanksgiving. Her California friends Judi Loren and Dave Peck and Brenda Baureis posted their remembrances on Facebook."

"Ann was my faithful client for over 20 years," Judi Loren, a hairstylist, wrote. "Her long brown hair was her crowning glory. We shared many laughs and talks. She was larger than life and I will always be grateful for her help, trust, and friendship."

"You will be in my heart forever, rest in peace, dear friend," Baureis posted.

Knoxx was larger than life. She was lean, rangy and had a striking face and was lean and rangy. She was described as resembling the singer-songwriter-poet Patti Smith. Born male, she lived for as long as anyone could remember as a woman.

If Knoxx had anyone in her life who seemed like a daughter, that would be Cheyenne Bart of Richville, California, McGuire said. Bart opened a GoFundMe page to pay for Knoxx's cremation and to bring her home to her friends and adopted family in California.

"Our beloved friend has passed away in Washington state and we are trying to raise money to cover the cost of the cremation so another friend can bring her back down to Butte County, California," Bart said on the GoFundMe page.

The target amount needed is \$1,000. So far several hundred dollars have been raised. To contribute to the fund, go to gofundme.com.

"Her birthday would be July 7," McGuire said. "She touched the hearts of so many." When asked if there were any photographs of Ann, McGuire said, "She really did not want her picture taken. But she loved any and all pictures of Renee."



Bert Little, Melvin Jasmin, Bill Logdson and front, Pearl Harbor survivor Spurgeon Keeth at Suzanne Elise.

Veterans at Suzanne Elise are honored

Suzanne Elise Assisted Living Community Center and the Veterans Speaker Bureau within Clatsop County honored military veterans at the center June 6 by awarding certificates of appreciation for their time in service.

In addition, other Clatsop County veterans received certificates for their military service. Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Fort

Stevens Post 10580 gave a certificate of appreciation to the Suzanne Elise Community Center, accepted by Director Jeanne Devitt.

The Veterans Speaker Bureau also honored the two survivors of Pearl Harbor who reside in Clatsop County, William (Bill) Thomas and Spurgeon D Keeth.

Bridgette Malone wins \$1,000 PEO scholarship

The Seaside high school winner of a PEO \$1,000 scholarship went to Bridgette Malone. Malone's activities include track and field, directing and producing school plays. She is a member of the National Honor Society and symphonic band. Malone plans to attend Central Oregon Community College in Bend, majoring in general studies with an interest in business management and architecture.

PEO, an international philanthropic educational organization, provides a variety of scholarships and loans to women of all ages.



Scholarship recipient Bridgette Malone

Seaside Chapter CR was established in 1953.

Pump Track opening celebration set

Celebrate opening day of the Cartwright Park Pump Track from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, July 16. The pump track features bumps, berms and curves for mountain bikes, without a lot of elevation.

There will be music, a "pump off" for most consecutive laps and a raffle drawing.

Bring the bikes and the entire family for a day of fun.

The pump track is located behind the Seaside School District office at 1801 S. Franklin St. near Avenue S in Seaside. The event is hosted by the North Coast Trail Alliance, a sub-chapter of Northwest Trail Alliance.

Libraries Reading Outreach in Clatsop County receives grant

The Libraries Reading Outreach in Clatsop County has received a \$10,000 grant from the Oregon Community Foundation. Libraries Reading Outreach was formed in 2009 to provide library services for all children in Clatsop County, regardless of their geographic location. The goal of this program is to remove barriers to literacy and lifelong success for all children in Clatsop County. Any child to age 19 can go to their closest public library in Clatsop County to receive a free library card. In addition to library cards, this program also provides an annual countywide summer reading program.

Kickoffs for the countywide program were held throughout the county on June 18th. Thanks to this funding from Oregon Community Foundation, the Libraries Reading Outreach in Clatsop County program is continuing to build local community support. Libraries ROCC held its first annual fundraiser last April at the Seaside Convention Center.

This program is a collaboration between the three public libraries and five school districts in Clatsop County.



Oregon Community Foundation volunteer Fernando Rodriguez with Seaside Public Library's Esther Moberg.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Monday, July 11**
Seaside City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.
- Thursday, July 14**
Seaside Convention Center Commission, 5 p.m., 1225 Avenue A.
- Gearhart Planning Commission**, 6 p.m., City Hall, 698 Pacific Way.
- Tuesday, July 19**
Sunset Empire Parks and Rec District, 4 p.m., 1225 Ave. A, Seaside.
- Thursday, July 21**
Seaside Tree Board, 4 p.m.,

- City Hall, 989 Broadway.
- Seaside Transportation Advisory Commission**, 6 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.
- Monday, July 25**
Seaside City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.
- Tuesday, July 26**
Seaside Airport Advisory Committee, 6 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.
- Tuesday, Aug. 2**
Seaside Planning Commission, 7 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.
- Wednesday, Aug. 3**
Seaside Improvement Com-

- mission, 7 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.
- Gearhart City Council**, 7 p.m., City Hall, 698 Pacific Way.
- Monday, Aug. 8**
Seaside City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.
- Thursday, Aug. 11**
Seaside Convention Center Commission, 5 p.m., 1225 Avenue A.
- Gearhart Planning Commission**, 6 p.m., City Hall, 698 Pacific Way.
- Tuesday, Aug. 16**
Sunset Empire Parks and Rec

- District, 4 p.m., 1225 Ave. A, Seaside.
- Thursday, Aug. 18**
Seaside Transportation Advisory Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.
- Monday, Aug. 22**
Seaside City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.
- Tuesday, Sept. 6**
Seaside Community Center Commission, 10 a.m., 1225 Avenue A.
- Seaside Planning Commission**, 7 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.

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