

Cutting through the brush

Amendments pass; new councilor appointed

By R.J. Marx
Seaside Signal

A last-minute call to extend discussion failed to derail the city's plans to update rules for cutting trees and vegetation in the dunes. Ordinance 910 will change the zone code to allow more removal of vegetation than the current beaches and dunes overlay code does.

Last month, planning commissioners unanimously recommend passage of the dune vegetation amendment.

The beach overlay district was established to regulate activity in dunes and beach areas in order to protect the landscape. The northern boundary is Fairway Avenue in the Highlands and the southern boundary is the south end of South Ocean Avenue.

Demand from homeowners and contractors for code changes have steady grown over the last two decades with an influx of invasive species posing risks to the environment and vegetation blocking views.

A January 2017 forum organized by Gearhart resident Margaret Marino brought experts to the table and was followed up by formation of the city's dune management committee.

Their recommendations were presented to the Planning Commission, which forwarded it to the City Council for a vote Wednesday, May 2.

Changes to the city's beach overlay district will be more permissive in allowing people to cut weeds, invasive plants and trim trees in the beaches and dunes overlay



R.J. MARX/SEASIDE SIGNAL

Dunes vegetation on the path to Little Beach in Gearhart.

district.

The new code expands rules to allow emergency and non-emergency vehicles both on public land for water system access and private land "as reasonably necessary" for construction or maintenance.

The code lays out details for pruning, trimming and removal of vegetation. Provisions establish a fire buffer safety zone and designate guidelines for trimming of shore pines and spruce.

Councilor Dan Jesse and Mayor Matt Brown voted for the amendments. Councilor Kerry Smith voted against, seeking further council discussion. Councilor Paulina Cockrum was absent.

If passed in a second reading at the June council meeting, provisions would go into effect 30 days later.

For now, homeowners can cut Scotch broom, but no pines, grasses or other types of vegetation, City Administrator Chad Sweet said after the meeting.

Fackerell appointed to council

Reita Fackerell was chosen from among three applicants for a vacant City Council

position Wednesday.

Former councilor Sue Lorain, first elected in 2012 and reelected in 2016, left the council in April after relocating to the Portland area. Her term does not expire until December 2020. Fackerell will finish out Lorain's term.

Brown introduced Fackerell as chairman of the city's budget committee two years running, with grant-writing experience and membership on a variety of regional boards, including the South County Food Bank and Seaside Chamber of Commerce.

Fackerell, former director of the Seaside Public Library, was named 2017 volunteer of the year by the Seaside Chamber of Commerce.

"I think she would be a wonderful asset to the City Council and the community as well," Brown said in announcing her appointment.

Fackerell will attend her first meeting as councilor in June.

"I appreciate everyone who was interested in the position," Brown said. "It really means a lot to us in the city that people want to get involved."

Freeda C. Haggerty Wheeler

May 23, 1920 — April 20, 2018

Freeda C. Haggerty, of Seaside and Cannon Beach, Oregon, died on Friday, April 20, 2018, in Wheeler, Oregon. She was born May 23, 1920, to Charles B. and Lesslie Hoesman Cooper in Merom, Indiana.

She was the eldest of two girls, and graduated in 1938 from Newport High School in Newport, Indiana. After school, she moved to Estes Park, Colorado, where she met and married David W. Haggerty Jr. in 1939.

The couple settled in Portland, Oregon, where they raised their three children. They moved to Tolovana Park, Oregon, in 1975, where they co-owned The Driftwood Inn Restaurant in Cannon Beach with their daughter and son-in-law, to whom they sold their interests in 1985. Freeda also owned her own gift shop, "Something Special," in Cannon Beach.

A devout Catholic, she was an active mem-

ber of St. Peter the Fisherman Church in Arch Cape.

She is preceded in death by her husband of 73 years, Dave, and grandson Matt Haggerty.

She is survived by her sister, Norma Bridges of Indianapolis, Indiana; a daughter and son-in-law, Terry and John Ward of Cannon Beach; two sons and daughters-in-law, David and Peggy Haggerty of Salem, Oregon, and Paul and Claudia Haggerty of Bend, Oregon; a foster daughter, Stephanie Burk of Boring, Oregon; 10 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

A rosary and funeral Mass were held May 4, 2018, at St. Peter the Fisherman Catholic Church, 79441 U.S. Highway 101 S., Arch Cape, Oregon. A reception followed in the church hall.

In lieu of flowers, Freeda requested a donation to be made to a charity of one's choice.



Freeda Haggerty

Albert Ernest Howerton Seaside

July 25, 1938 — May 3, 2018

To his many friends he was "Al," but to his family he was always "Albert."

Albert Ernest Howerton died at home, in Seaside, on Thursday, May 3. He was born in Portland in 1938 to Albert F. and Dorothy Howerton. He had four siblings who preceded him in death, Harry, Ronald, Dorothy and Lucille, and one surviving brother, Robert. He spent his youth living in several Oregon cities; Portland, The Dalles, Toledo, and Newport.

In 1957, he met the woman who later became his wife of almost 59 years, Dorothy Irene Hudson. They were married two years later on June 12, 1959, in Toledo, Oregon. They renewed those vows to each other two additional times, in 1984 and again in 2009.

They raised two children, Suzan Jean Howerton (born in 1963), and Tracy Allen Howerton (born in 1961), who is married to Sarah. Tracy has one son, Jeffery Allen Howerton, who, with his wife Haleigh, have two children, Alison and Derek.

At the time of their marriage, Albert was in the Air Force National Guard. Albert and Dorothy later moved to Seaside, Oregon, in 1962, where he worked several different jobs; as a

logger, mill worker, but mainly as a car mechanic in gas stations.

Albert had several hobbies, mostly doing with the outdoors. He loved to go hunting, fishing, and clamming. He was also an avid card player. His favorites were Liverpool rummy and cribbage. He even found a way to combine his hobbies. He made fishing pole holders out the windows of his truck, so when he was fishing off the beach, he could play cribbage and drink coffee with his friends in the comfort of his truck.

He was an early morning coffee drinker. If he wasn't in bed at 4 a.m., you would know he was having coffee somewhere. He always had his favorite restaurant, and while it was open, it was Rob's Restaurant. When the early morning staff came in, they would find him and his group there, with the grills and coffee on and the ice filled. The funny thing is, he almost never drank coffee at home. He didn't even own a coffee pot until recently.

At this time there will be no funeral. The family has chosen to have a celebration of life event around the time of what would have been his 80th birthday in July.



Albert Howerton

Nature on view at Broadway Park as osprey lays first egg of season

Camera offers unique look at nature up close

By R.J. Marx
Seaside Signal

Live, from Seaside, with a real bird's-eye view. The Seaside "Live View Nest Cam" delivered to internet viewers the first osprey egg of the season.

There's a happy mama perched in a nest in Seaside. Through the wonders of the "Live View Nest Cam," internet visitors can watch in real time the interaction at the nest. The egg was laid sometime Tuesday, May 1, between 11 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., according to Angie Reseland of the Necanicum Watershed Council.

Ospreys, a cousin of the eagle that prefers high perches, nested on a light pole on



NECANICUM WATERSHED COUNCIL

An osprey as seen via webcam protecting its egg.

Broadway Park field. The pole came down after artificial turf was installed in 2011, displacing the osprey.

The nest later was placed on the trunk of a 60-foot hemlock tree donated by a local timber company. However,

the trunk rotted, and a windstorm broke it in two places. In 2013 the nest was relocated to its present location.

Through joint fundraising efforts by the city, the Necanicum Watershed Council and local donors, a camera was

purchased and installed over the nest.

The pole snapped in hurricane-force winds in 2016, spilling the nest on top of the pole and the camera. Once again donors provided funds for repairs.

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