

Pocket park coming to Cooper Drive

Just don't fly your drone

By R.J. MARX
Seaside Signal

A strip of land east of Cooper Drive between two lots will be developed into a neighborhood park. With minor improvements, the park, which abuts forest land, has the potential to be a tsunami evacuation access road to higher ground, Public Works Director Dale McDowell said Monday, Oct. 14.

After residents told officials the city-owned right-of-way was overgrown and they'd like something done with it if possible, "we went from the parks advisory to here, then the Planning Commission and got their approval as well," McDowell said. "We tried to get everybody involved on board and get their communication. Now we're moving forward with it."

The proposed pocket



Tom Horning, City Council liaison to the Seaside Parks Advisory Committee, and committee member Matthew Stolberg celebrate the creation of the Cooper Street pocket park.

park will provide additional recreational space for the neighborhood while maintaining an open pathway for vehicular access in case of an emergency, Planning Commission staff stated in

their August findings. The 20-foot-by-120-foot park will be open until 9 p.m., McDowell said. "One of the things with this particular park is no drone flying," McDowell said.

"Unfortunately, the school district doesn't want anybody flying over the school —except authorized people. Same with our timber partners up there too." Emergency equipment



Cooper Street pocket park location outlined in yellow.

will be able to access the park via a right of way originally intended to provide potential emergency access to the abutting forest land currently owned by Stimson Lumber. A garbage can will be provided for use at the site and McDowell will consider how a bike rack can be incorporated into the park

Ahead will be community get-togethers to "find out what everybody will want," he added. "We know there will be a basketball court, some benches, picnic tables, there may be some community gardens down near the bottom, that may help balls from rolling into the street. We'll come up with a nice plan and make the city proud of this, too."

Gearhart, Seaside hear county homeless approach

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Astorian

Government leaders across Clatsop County appear supportive of naming a homeless liaison, if the position and how much it will cost can be better defined.

Astoria Police Chief Geoff Spalding broached the idea at a recent meeting of the city's homelessness solutions task force, noting a 300% increase in calls this year related to the homeless, likely tied to increased awareness of the issue.

The police chief used the example of a similar temporary position added by Gresham and said he'd like to bring a recommendation to the Astoria City Council by the first quarter of next year. Members of the task

force warmed to the idea, seeing it as a way to help the homeless, make residents feel safer and reduce pressure on police, parks and other agencies that often interact with the homeless. But because of the cost and transient nature of the homeless population, it became clear the task force would need buy-in from governments across the county.

Spalding and members of the task force brought the idea to a roundtable Thursday, Oct. 10, between county, Seaside, Gearhart, Astoria and Cannon Beach leaders to gauge their interest. Representatives from Warrenton, which has one of the highest concentrations of homeless people, were not at the meeting.

The police chief summed up the need for a liaison with

a quote from the National Alliance to End Homelessness, which has pushed for communities to move from

necessarily have really good data on the individuals and what their needs are." A subcommittee of the

'WOULD WE BE OPEN TO CONSIDERING SHARING FUNDING FOR SUCH A POSITION, OR PERHAPS TWO POSITIONS?'

Astoria City Councilor Joan Herman

a collection of individual programs to a coordinated, data-driven approach.

"Some of the things we see this person doing would be coordinating all the efforts of all the different agencies," Spalding said. "The other part of this is collecting data. We don't

homelessness task force has been researching the position and cost. Spalding estimated the potential salary at between \$50,000 to \$60,000 and said Clatsop Community Action has offered to host the position. Some have raised concerns that there would need to be multiple

people in such a role.

Underscoring the difficulty in tracking the homeless population, leaders quibbled briefly over the homeless count across the county.

The closest to a county-wide figure is Clatsop Community Action's Project Homeless Connect in January and the U.S. Census next year. But leaders noted the shortcomings of trying to count homeless people who may move to warmer climates in the winter or not participate in surveys.

Social service provid-

ers have estimated there are roughly 1,000 homeless people in the county.

"Merely to bring this to, say, our City Council or the county commission, we don't necessarily have to have an exact number," Astoria City Councilor Joan Herman said. "I could foresee just asking our local bodies, 'Would we be open to considering sharing funding for such a position, or perhaps two positions?' Because we're all paying for it now, in police response and various other responses."

OBITUARIES

Jack Picard

Terrebonne
Jan. 9, 1948 — Oct. 10, 2019

Jack Picard, a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend, passed away on Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019, from a heart attack at the age of 71.

Born on Jan. 9, 1948, in Portland, Oregon, to Harry and Mildred (Burns) Picard, Jack spent his youth in Washington and Oregon as the family moved from city to city while his dad worked for a road construction company. In 1964, the family settled in Seaside, Oregon, where Jack made lifelong friends and excelled as a football running back for the Seaside Seagulls.

Seaside is also where he met the love of his life, Julie Bartlett. After Jack graduated high school in 1966, Jack and Julie married in July 1967. Soon after, they expanded their family with the arrival of their first son, Jeff, followed by their second son John, and their youngest, Janelle.

The Picards lived in Portland, Oregon, where Jack began an apprenticeship as a heavy equipment diesel mechanic at Halton Tractor. He worked at Halton from 1967 to 1981, where he rose through the ranks as a heavy equipment line salesman, before spending the remainder of his career at Elting Inc. as an equipment superintendent. Jack retired at 58 years old in January 2006.

After retirement, Jack and Julie moved to Crooked River Ranch in Central Oregon, and continued to explore the U.S. in their motorhome. Jack had a deep love of coun-

try, and accomplished his goal to travel to all 50 states. Most recently, Jack and Julie spend the last few years "snow birding" in Arizona, and riding their ATV into the hills.

A man of character, he lived a life that is best defined by family, hard work, commitment and devotion. Jack had an incredible work ethic, a strong sense of right and wrong and strived to live by example. He was fully dedicated to the people he loved. Jack cherished his family and the time they spent together camping, hunting and fishing. His love of the outdoors was something he passed onto his children and grandchildren.

Jack leaves behind a family that includes his wife of 52 years Julie; children Jeff (Debbie) Picard, John Picard and Janelle (Daniel) Lee; brother Mike (Valerie) Picard and sister Jill (Ray) Springer; as well as his much-loved grandchildren Madison, Caleb and Lauren (Jeff), Emily (John), Kelsi and Kadi (Janelle); and several nieces and nephews.

Jack was preceded in death by his father, Harry, and his mother, Mildred. He will be deeply missed.

Please join us for a celebration of life that will be held on Saturday, Nov. 2, 2019, at 2 p.m., at the Battle Ground Community Center, 912 E. Main St., Battle Ground, Washington.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the American Diabetes Association, www.donations.diabetes.org

History and Hops series at Seaside Brewing

Exploring the art of nursing

Melodie Chenevert, owner and curator of the Museum of the Lost Art of Nursing in Cannon Beach, will share stories of nursing history at the Seaside Museum's next History and Hops to be held on Oct. 31, at 6 p.m. at the Seaside Brewing Co.

Chenevert became a nurse more than 50 years ago and has been collecting nursing memorabilia for more than 35 of those years. She is also an accomplished author and lively speaker who has conducted workshops in 49 of the 50 states as well as in Canada, England, Australia, and Japan focusing on communication skills, management strategies, creativity and innovation.

History and Hops is a series of local history discussions hosted by the Seaside Museum on the last Thursday of each month, September through May, at Seaside Brewing Co., 851 Broadway.



Work by Jill Hoddick at the Cannon Beach History Center and Museum.

Textile exhibit in Cannon Beach

High Fiber Diet will be showcasing their latest textile exhibit "#OMG That's Fiber?" October through November 2019 at the Cannon Beach History Center and Museum.

"#OMG That's Fiber" is a collection of textile creations personal to each artist. The exhibit event includes sculptures created from fabric. A grouping of different techniques and styles make this exhibit an incredible exploration of fiber art.

This exhibit has been sponsored by local fabric store, Center Diamond.

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