

Port Orford Today!

Serving the Port Orford area since 1990

Vol. 10 Number 10

Thursday, March 11, 1999

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The Downtown Fun Zone

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May the luck of the Irish be
with you on St. Patrick's Day!

Canopy Project Vote By Evan Kramer



The Curry County Commissioners held a town hall meeting at Port Orford City Hall on Thursday night and spoke to a large gathering.

Commissioner Lloyd Olds introduced Pete Russo, Curry County's new Emergency Services Director. Commissioner Cheryl Thorp said she was really pleased to be in Port Orford. She is the animal control liaison on the board of commissioners. Thorp said the Dogs for Deaf group, based in White City, was not going to come to Curry County and evaluate the dogs in our animal shelter for their program because of the distance. She encouraged animal lovers to make a visit to the animal shelter in Gold Beach and adopt a dog if possible.

Lloyd Olds said the three commissioners are doing what's right for the people of Curry County and that the people were starting to feel more comfortable about the county. Commissioner Bill Roberts said county employees had been told to treat the people with respect.

Jay Stoler asked about the county Y2K committee and what people can do about the problem. Roberts told him the county IBM mainframe computer is not compli-

ant and will be gone by October of this year. He said the county is stocking up on fuel for emergency services. The County has purchased a diesel Caterpillar generator to provide emergency power for the 911 dispatchers. Olds said all the county can do is get ready; he doesn't want people to panic and that we have a chance to take care of our people.

The commissioners were asked about the cost of the Canopy Project, will it be built and why the project was being undertaken. Lloyds Olds said the Canopy Project was started during a previous administration of the board of commissioners. Olds stated emphatically that no county money has been spent on the Project. He said the money has come from the U.S. Forest Service. Olds said he wanted money spent locally on the project and that he wanted local people to build it and the materials bought from Curry County suppliers. Roberts said the projected price of a ticket to walk 80-120' above the ground amongst the old growth trees would be \$7.00. He recommended a \$1.00 assessment that would go to the county to help pay for local services including law enforcement and medical. Thorp said the project looked exciting but she wants to put the Canopy Project on the ballot so the voters can decide on whether or not they want it. Roberts added that the commissioners have been

told it may not be legal to put it on the ballot. He said the rationale behind the Canopy Project is to replace jobs lost with the reduction in timber harvests. He said the money coming from the Forest Service is grant money going to a non-profit organization. Olds said the Canopy Project would not be attached to the trees but be free standing.

John Mayea thanked Cheryl Thorp for making good on her campaign promise to visit Port Orford and said he appreciated the visit by all three. Lloyd Olds added that they have yet to have a town hall meeting in Brookings. He once again stated he will not seek a second term of office and said we need a candidate from North Curry to run for commissioner.

The answer to a question about consolidation of Port Orford, Sixes and Langlois was an unequivocal **NO**.

Norm Leeling asked if there was something the commissioners could do about the loose dog problem in Port Orford and vicinity. Lloyd Olds said some action will be taken in 2-3 weeks and changes will be made. Bill Roberts said we need an effort to license more dogs to pay for the department. Cheryl Thorp urged residents to call her with any dog problems they had. Olds said he had seen a worker

Continued on back cover

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Tide Predictions For Port Orford - 42° 44 N 124° 30 W

Produced by "Tides & Currents for Windows" version 2.0 by Nautical Software (503) 579-1414

Date	Midnight to Noon				Noon to Midnight				Sun Moon			
	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Phase	
Thu Mar 11	5:55a	6.2	1:23p	1.2	8:20p	5.0			6:35a	6:20p	3:06a	12:32p
Fri Mar 12	1:00a	3.9	7:01a	6.4	2:20p	0.8	9:11p	5.4	6:33a	6:21p	3:52a	1:24p
Sat Mar 13	2:08a	3.6	8:03a	6.6	3:08p	0.4	9:50p	5.8	6:31a	6:22p	4:35a	2:21p
Sun Mar 14	3:03a	3.2	8:57a	7.0	3:50p	0.0	10:24p	6.2	6:29a	6:23p	5:15a	3:22p
Mon Mar 15	3:50a	2.6	9:46a	7.3	4:29p	-0.3	10:57p	6.6	6:28a	6:24p	5:51a	4:31p
Tue Mar 16	4:34a	2.0	10:34a	7.6	5:07p	-0.4	11:30p	7.1	6:26a	6:26p	6:25a	5:38p
Wed Mar 17	5:18a	1.3	11:21a	7.7	5:45p	-0.3			6:24a	6:27p	6:59a	6:47p NM
Thu Mar 18	12:03a	7.4	6:03a	0.7	12:08p	7.6	6:23p	-0.1	6:22a	6:28p	7:32a	7:56p

**City Hires New Officer
By Evan Kramer**

The Port Orford City Council began their Monday meeting with a bed tax committee report from Ron Culbertson. The recommendations of the committee were to award \$2170 to the Chamber of Commerce and \$930 to the Arts Council for the tourism development project. They recommended giving \$1290 to the Master Gardeners, \$375 to Friends of the Parks, \$1500 to Lightin' Bugs and \$1800 to the Fourth of July Jubilee Committee as part of the beautification fund. Culbertson said they couldn't recommend the \$6000 request from the Port Orford Heritage Society because their presentation was lacking. There is \$31,000 available in the bed tax funds of which 10% goes to the tourism development fund, 30% or \$9000 or whichever is higher to the Chamber to run the visitor center, 5% to the city for administering the fund, and the remaining 55% for beautification of

the city. Councilor Nathaniel Wander asked what happens to the rest of the money which was not awarded. Johnny Alexander said it goes into next year's fund. Councilor Robert Warring made a motion for the council to endorse the recommendation of the bed tax committee and the council agreed unanimously.

Public Works Director Jerry McNurlin showed the council two videotapes on cleaning reservoirs. He said he wants the two city reservoirs (one on Deady Street and the other on Coast Guard Hill) cleaned by this summer after work is completed on the water treatment plant. He said he was going out for quotes to re-roof and re-side the city shop building. McNurlin said he expected the city would hire a contractor to open the lake outlet on Wednesday of this week.

The fire department reported one fire and one new fire fighter.

Police Chief Bill Rush recommended the

council hire Brian Ferguson for the open police officer position at a salary of \$11.00 an hour and start him working on March 15. Councilor Jane Cramer made a motion to approve this recommendation and it passed unanimously. Rush said initially Ferguson will work days with him but eventually will work nights. Rush described February as a very business month for the police department. He had 68 calls for service, served three search warrants involving drugs, handled 18 new cases including 10 misdemeanors, 4 felonies and four others, wrote 11 traffic citations and worked 23 public assists. He described February as a month he was "reactive" rather than proactive and he prefers being proactive.

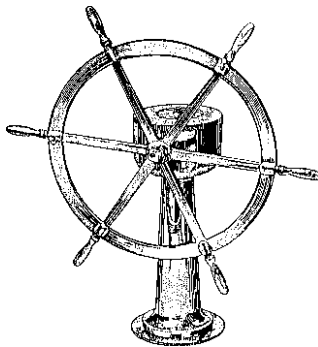
Johnny Alexander asked the council to say yes or no to a request from the Swann Dance Company to use the Community Building at a reduced rate. Councilor Norm Leeling offered a motion to deny

Continued on next page

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City Hires New Officer Continued from previous page

the request. The council tied 3-3 and Mayor Gary Doran broke the tie when he voted yes on the motion to deny the request.

Councilor Ralph Donaldson spoke about the potential purchase of the Bussman property on Hubbard Creek. He proposed Johnny and councilor Jim Campbell negotiate with Bussman's representative. He recommended Nathaniel Wander and Johnny Alexander serve on an environmental investigation committee studying the request. Johnny Alexander said the Oregon Economic Development Department (OEDD) makes available low interest loans for watershed protection. Councilor Cramer said she is vehemently against the city paying Bussman's asking price. Fire Chief George Gehrke said back when he was on the council the property (different owner) was offered to the city but they wouldn't take it. He said a reservoir including the Bussman property could hold 100 million gallons of water. The council consensus was to go ahead with the two committees.

Johnny Alexander said the city needs to re-bid the job for the two entrance signs.

Councilor Leeling made a motion that the council utilize form "Exempt Personnel Performance Appraisal" in evaluating city administrator Alexander. The council agreed 5-1 and they will fill out their forms and discuss Alexander in an executive session.

The council by a 5-1 vote authorized Johnny Alexander to make Umpqua Community Development Corporation the grant administrator for the 10" water line from Geer Circle to the Cedar Pointe Cottages on Arizona Street. Councilor Wander called this a blatant conflict of interest because Umpqua CDC created the Cedar Pointe project and the need for the 10" water line. He said the city needs a Community Development Corporation of its own.

The council unanimously passed Budget Appropriation Resolution 99-03 regarding grant funds for the Wetlands Interpretive Center and the 12th Street boat ramp improvements.

Council parks liaison Wander talked about the littering problem in the city parks and rights-of-way. He mentioned witnessing a citizen adding their own garbage including plastic to the city burn pile in the

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Pinehurst parking lot. He requested input from citizens about enforcing city ordinances on littering in parks and rights-of-way.

"Growing up as a Teenager"

Friends of the Bandon Library and William Piehl are sponsoring the third annual Celia Piehl Young Poets Award. The contest theme this year is "Growing up as a Teenager." First prize is \$100, second prize is \$75, third prize is \$50 and three honorable mentions of \$25 each.

The award date is April 2, 1999. 7:30pm, at the Bandon High School Library. Deadline for submission of the poem is March 22.

Any student between the age of 12 and 18 years, living in the Bandon, Langlois, or Port Orford school districts may enter the contest. The poem may be any form or free verse with a maximum of 40 lines.

Rules: Enter one original, unpublished poem. Type or write neatly on one side of an 8 1/2 x 11 sheet of white unlined paper. Put the title of the poem at the top, and in the upper right hand corner write your age and the contest's theme "Growing up as a teenager." Make two copies and write your name, address and telephone number on only one copy. Bring or mail both copies of your poem to the Bandon Public Library in Bandon City Hall building. The library address is Bandon Public Library, Poetry Contest, PO Box 128, Bandon, Oregon 97411.



No
Cover

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Senior News By Mary Yoder

March 2 was nutrition meeting. They sure planned some good luncheons, best come and see for yourself.

March 4 was Rotary luncheon. Volunteers working were Kay Neal, Lorraine Hass, Betty Harper, June Dennison – setting up the dining room – Bill Butt doing dishes, etc. Haven't found out who helped – dishes I mean.

March 9 was board meeting. Last board meeting it was voted on to have the inside of the center painted. Well it's being done – does it ever look nice. I haven't seen anyone painting – guess they do it in the middle of the night – come by and see.

March 13 is the corn beef and cabbage luncheon at 11:30am – also birthday party. Free lunch for all birthday people membership or not and that's not all – the sing-a-longs are going to entertain. I won't

miss that – also rummage sale from 8:00am-1:00pm.

March 14 is the breakfast from 8:00am-1:00pm – all you can eat – good stuff – ham, sausage, pancakes, waffles, scrambled eggs, juice, coffee, tea and some syrup and butter too.

March 15 is pinochle at 7:00pm – last time had 5 tables. Nice time was had by all – best come there is room for more players.

One more thing the center has many many puzzles – you know what, you can come borrow them – put them together – come back and trade for some different ones.

Still tax help every Wednesday till May 15.

You too are given a special day

A day in which to do

Not only what you feel you must

But all that's expected of you

Bartlett's Cafe

Sunday March 14

Happy Birthday Ron!

Monday March 15

Beef Enchilada

Tuesday March 16

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Wednesday March 17

Soup & San

Thursday March 18

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Monthly Friendship Lunch

Members of the community are cordially invited to the monthly friendship lunch sponsored by Port Orford Christian Center on Sunday, March 14, at 12:45pm. Each month features a new recipe for homemade soup and Garden Café's fresh baked whole-wheat rolls.

Come and enjoy wholesome fellowship and food while you get acquainted with other residents of our fair township. We look forward to visiting with you!

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**Scoutmaster Report
By Jerry White**

Well it's time to let you know how the boys of Troop 101 are doing. It has been three months since the last Scoutmaster's minutes and the troop has grown from 10 boys to 18 registered boys. The troop has three new adult leaders. Tom Keeler Jr., Rob Ashdown, John Fraser, and all have been wonderful help. All the boys in the troop are working hard and have all been very involved in the community. The last three months have been so busy for the boys, one camp at Cape Blanco State Park, two flag services for the city, and they also helped serve dinner at the Legion Hall and the Community Building

Paula Cracas

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for the Rotary Club. When the boys were camped at Cape Blanco State Park they also did a service by planting 300 small trees and all seemed to enjoy the experience. I can't seem to say enough for the boys of Troop 101. They are a pleasure to teach and work with. The troop has three boys near First Class rank, four boys near second class, and three boys at tenderfoot plus seven new boys at the scout rank. The troop has a Court of Honor on March 31. The boys will be receiving their next rank award plus other achievements that they have met. Please come and support these boys and anyone is welcome to attend the Court of Honor.

Before I depart I would like to thank a few

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people for supporting this troop. Thank you goes to Frank Smith, Masonic Lodge members, American Legion, Rotary, Paul Wayne and Humbug Mountain State Park and finally all the parents. Thank-you!

As a reminder the troop's Court of Honor is March 31, 7:00pm, at the Masonic Lodge.

Adventure Center Schedule

If you have something to share, organize, or would like to see offered at the Adventure Center, please call Cathy at North Curry Families' and Children's Center at 332-9191 or 332-1042. The deadline is March 15 to be included in the March/April schedule. Thanks!



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Adventure Center Opens

The Adventure Center Open House on Tuesday, March 2 was a big success. Despite the high winds and driving rain over 20 local citizens blew in the door and showed their support. While sipping hot cider and nibbling homemade cookies we watched slides of the Owyhee River, shared photos, told stories, and answered questions about desert country. Afterwards, we talked about community events that could be organized at the Adventure Center. Some ideas included backpacking, hiking, rafting, kayaking as well as a group of local walkers. Classes talked about were leather working, bird walks, bead making (which our first class was full!), and more slide show presentations. Youth project ideas were to numerous to mention but included camp outs, biking, craft classes, and theater. We will offer activities at a low cost to cover expenses, or free of charge when possible. Please share your ideas with Cathy at North Curry Families' and Children's Center at 332-9191 or 332-1042. Don't forget to keep an eye out for upcoming events!

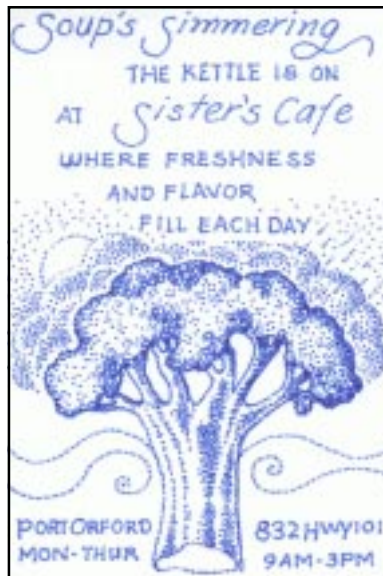
Rodeo Court Tryouts

Tryouts for the 1999 Curry County Fair & Rodeo court will be held on Sunday, March 28, at the Curry County Fairgrounds. You must be between the ages of 14 and 19, and live in Curry County. For more info call Carol Smith at 348-2219, Donna DeHart at 247-6906 or Linda Salzburg at 469-2000. Let's rodeo!

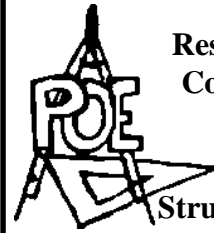
Governing Ourselves

"How We Govern Ourselves in Curry County" will be the topic for discussion at the Port Orford unit, League of Women Voters of Curry County. The meeting will be held at the home of Dot Mathews, Doug Johnson Lane, at 10:00am on Friday, March 12. Interested citizens are welcome.

County League members have been studying the structure and functions of county government for nearly two years. The findings will be discussed at all unit meetings this month. League of Women Voters is open to men and women citizens of voting age. For more info, call 332-9002.



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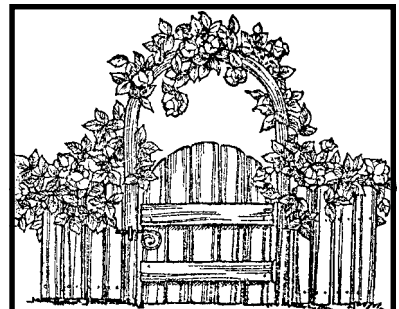
(541) 332-0139

Public Meetings

Port Orford-Langlois 2CJ School District board of directors meeting on Tuesday, March 16, 7:00pm, in the library room at Pacific High School.

Port of Port Orford commission meets on Tuesday, March 16, 7:00pm, in the city hall council chambers.

Meet Curry County Sheriff Kent Owens in a Town Hall meeting at Port Orford City Hall on Thursday, March 18, from 6:30-8:00pm. This is an opportunity for North Curry county residents to meet our new Sheriff and ask questions.



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Sat 8:00am-9:00pm

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Civil War Ancestors seminar

Deadline is this Saturday, March 13 to get info in for the March 20th one-day workshop entitled "Discovering Your Civil War Ancestors, Their Battles and Stories." The seminar will be conducted by Civil War researchers Walt Schroeder Clay Feeter and Dean Jorgensen who ask participants to call or email their Civil War ancestor information in order to perform research in advance of the seminar. "This will give us a head start, to allow us to arrive at the March 20 workshop with details on each ancestor's regimental history," says Schroeder.

People who plan to attend the seminar should limit their inquiries to two ancestors. The seminar is Saturday, March 20, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Southwestern Oregon Community College classroom located at the Curry County Fairgrounds in Gold Beach. Cost is \$40 per person and includes a well-rounded slide presentation on America's Civil War Battlefields. For local hotel information and to submit your CW ancestor(s) info by March 13 to Clay Feeter: 247-2310; Email: wtrackshq@aol.com or Walt Schroeder: 247-7660; Email: schroeder@harborside.com

BINGO

Friday, March 12th, 7:00pm

Port Orford Community Building

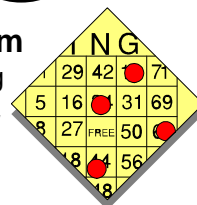
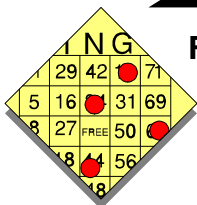
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Port Orford Community Children's Center

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Community Spirit By Jane Cramer

Is community spirit alive and well in Port Orford? 'You betcha!' is the answer you'd get from the 100+ people who were at the Community Party and Dessert Potluck last Sunday.

We learned a lot about community and co-operation as we heard about some little known ways people help each other in Port Orford. We played games where players learned to communicate with each other as they worked together to accomplish various goals, although there just might be a few people still linked together with ropes. Dot Mathews won a prize for being the best mingler in a game to see who could get the most signatures of people who fit certain categories. She got signatures for all but three of the blanks. Rusty Miller was a very popular fellow since he could sign his name in nearly every category.

A Chime Choir directed by Roald Young performed twice and the Blanco Step Dancers under the direction of Diane Cassel gave us an all too brief taste of their talents. Chimers and dancers received a lot of well-deserved applause for their performances. I'd like to thank each of them for giving their time to entertain us.

Many people contributed to the success of the party. Bessie and Orville Laursen contributed the table coverings and vases

for centerpieces. Paula Cracas recycled pussy willow branches from the city burn pile to use for decoration. Cathy Boden and John Shippe provided games; the Friends of Cape Blanco donated cider and a cider pot. Elaine Hamilton and John Houser loaned coffee pots. Many, many hands made short work of the clean-up. Thanks especially to Bonnie and Michael, who hung in there until the last load was carried to the car, and to Frank Cramer, who helped in so many ways.

A lot of people commented "We should do this again!" And we just might, since now we know that community spirit IS alive and well in Port Orford.

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All proceeds to benefit the 1999's Drug and Alcohol Free Graduation Party

Visa and MasterCard accepted

See You There!

Coast Baseball League

Coast Baseball League, a non-profit, all volunteer baseball program needs your support for the children of our community.

Our league has been active for ten seasons. Our Goal and Mission has been to provide a fun and exciting baseball program for our community's children. We promote and encourage good sportsmanship, courtesy, responsibility, honesty, team spirit, and respect for authority and others. We raise money each year to purchase equipment, uniforms, and other needed items for the children. We also help with the maintenance of the high

school, park and other baseball fields in our community.

The success of this program depends on people like you who help us each year financially or as volunteers. Your help insures programs like this one stay in our community. We currently offer T-ball for 5 to 8 year olds, Little League for 9 to 12 years old, Babe Ruth for 13 to 15 years old and will introduce a girls' instructional softball program this year, serving over 150 children within our community.

Last year we completed the concession stand and began the fencing along the baselines and in front of the dugouts. This year we are concentrating our efforts

on the completion of the outfield fence and providing covering for the dugouts at our Buffington Park field, dedicated last year to "Red" McWilliams.

As part of our fund raising efforts, we sell signs that we put up around the baseball field during each season. These signs promote businesses and show their support for our program. The signs have a first time fee of \$75 and a yearly donation of \$50 to maintain them. The signs are 4 foot by 8 foot and can be painted in any design of your choice. If you are interested in a sign, contact us for more information.

We are asking for your help in supporting our league through volunteering or becoming one of our "Friends of Baseball" by making a monetary donation. Volunteers are essential in the success of our season. If you would like to volunteer as a coach, assistant, work crew, concession stand helper or in any other way, don't hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your support and come out to enjoy the fun and excitement of America's favorite pastime – Baseball!

Steve Martin, president, 332-7003
Tim Armi, vice-president, 332-5004

Lightin' Bugs Meet!

The Lightin' Bugs are "up for spark again, with a millennium of matters to decide." they meet at 6:00 pm Thu. March 11, at the Port and Starboard Restaurant.



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(541) 332-8265 Eve. & Sun. Port Orford

Langlois Lions

Spaghetti Dinner

and Dessert Auction

Friday, March 12 • 5-8pm

Floras Lake Loop Road

Adults	\$4.00
5-12	\$2.00
Under 5	Free
Family	\$12.00



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Todd Merryman (owner) WWC#1604 CCB# 121259



Dignity
By Graeme Graydon

Penny Torres operates the Oregon Tiger Sanctuary near Eagle Point, Oregon, a superb facility that shelters some endangered species, mostly tigers and primates who have been traumatized by their previous owners or dumped because they weren't useful anymore. Tiger cubs are 'cute' to photograph with children in the Mall, but they grow into tigers.

Penny has been watching Sirange, an 18 year old tiger. Sirange was horribly treated by humans and became too dangerous to be handled. For years, the Sanctuary gave safety, comfort and compassion but he had never been able to find peace – for in his mind, humans – all humans were a threat to him.

Sirange will probably die very soon, the natural completion of his tiger-life. Penny has been watching, discreetly, as he prepares for his death. The other day he decided quite clearly that he wanted to feel the rain on his face – one last time. It was a struggle, but he hauled himself up and walked unsteadily into the rain. He lay down on his side, for it was too painful to lie on his belly, with his head resting on

an armful of straw, eyes wide open, the rain drops on his whiskers, his ears and his chin trying to get as much as he could. He tried to brush his huge paw across his face but it was too difficult. It began to snow, he got up slowly and moved under cover to watch the flakes. This rage-full tiger is at peace with his world, he has no regrets for the people he injured, no hate for the people who hurt him. He is doing exactly what he wants to do. One day there was a big wind. Tigers believe that God sends the wind so that they can fly – tigers love the wind. Penny watched this powerful creature decide not to miss his last wind. He got up and walked out of his den to really feel it and then walked over to the cage of his best friend – a tigress. Happy tigers make a chuffing sound, she chuffed him 20 times, all Sirange could do was chuff once, and then he lay down with his back against her cage, she chuffed and rubbed against him through the wire mesh. Sirange was saying 'Goodbye' to his best friend.

This great tiger is dying with dignity. He is not frightened to die, and he knows that he is dying. He has no questions. No one ever told him that he would go to a tiger hell. He believes in the rain, the wind and

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his friend. Maybe he dreams happily about the wonderful babies he might have had with her. He has no guilt, he is at peace with every choice he makes.

I contemplate this magnificent animal whose life was so twisted and tormented by humans, how peaceful and powerful he is as he prepares for his last breath.

If a traumatized, caged tiger can die with such grace why do I see so many people dying in unspeakable fears and bitter regret. It seems as if our society uses the last moments of life as a time of punishment.

I hope I have Sirange's dignity when it is my turn.

State of the Schools

By March 5, 1999 each school superintendent is required to review their school's program and determine if the district is in compliance. I have completed my 10th report in as many years and for the 10th year, having reviewed the standards, OAR Chapter 581, I hereby state our schools to be in compliance. The District is in compliance with Division 22, Standards for Public Elementary and Secondary Schools.

Richard Wold, Superintendent

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HOT NEW MOVIES this week: "What Dreams May Come" starring Robin Williams, "Dead Man on Campus", "Little Indian, Big City", "Somebody is Waiting", "The King and I", and a new Deep Space 9 tape. We also rent DVD's and are always adding new titles. The Downtown Fun Zone is open 9:30am till 6pm Monday thru Thursday and from 9:30am till 7pm Friday and Saturday. Closed on Sunday.

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Letter to the Editor,

I suspect we're not the only ones who are confused by conflicting media reports which make contradictory claims about items of importance to our lives. Some are undoubtedly honest differences of opinion between scientific investigators, but many are not. An editorial in the March/April issue of World Watch so impressed us that we FAXed their offices for permission to send it to our Port Orford newspapers. We still won't know, when we hear or read a report issued by an organization with an impressive name, how to tell who is behind it and what are their motives, but an awareness that there may be self-interest behind the story is at least a beginning.

NGO-FRIEND OR FOE?

"Those of us who work to defend human rights or the environment often find that our main impediments are the dominant institutions of the world—nations and corporations. Up to now our institutional allies have been NGOs;—not-for-profit, nongovernmental organizations like the Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace International, Human Rights Watch, etc. In recent years, NGOs have become ever more numerous and influential—witness the successful effort in 1997 by more than 350 NGOs to forge a treaty banning landmines despite opposition from the United States.

Unfortunately, the very fact that they are so influential has opened the door to a new—and now rampant—form of exploitation: NGOs today aren't always what they appear to be. Consider:

* At the time of the Kyoto climate treaty negotiations in 1997, editors and journalists received copies of what looked like a

reprint of an article from a scientific journal, from an NGO identified as the Oregon Institute of Science and Medicine. Although the institute had published no peer-reviewed work in any field related to climate change, The Wall Street Journal published an article by the institute's lead researchers, under the headline "Science Has Spoken: Global Warming Is A Myth."

* An NGO called the Greening Earth Society has launched a major media campaign to persuade policymakers and the public that the increasing CO2 emissions is a good thing, because CO2 is a natural part of the environment and will enhance plant growth. The Greening Earth Society turns out to be a front organization for the U.S. coal industry.

* Journalists reporting on the public scare about the health effects of the plant-growth enhancer Alar came to the general conclusion that the "hysteria" had been unwarranted, after reviewing statements from an NGO identified as the American Council on Science and Health. The council, which describes itself as a "public education group," receives almost all of its funding from food, drug, and chemical companies—including Uniroyal Chemicals, the maker of Alar.

There are now hundreds of such groups trading on the good reputation NGOs have earned. They have names like the National Wetlands Coalition (which represents developers who would like to fill in more wetlands for building sites); People for the West! (funded and controlled by mining and logging companies); and Consumer Alert (an industry front group that fights product safety regulations). The roster of international NGOs is actually dominated by trade and industry groups; an extensive survey of 22

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industrial and developing countries found that on average the number of people employed by trade and industry non-profits outnumbers those employed by environmental groups four to one.

It is time to demand that the sources of information disseminated through mass media (whether by TV, internet, print media, or postal service) be clearly identified. All issue ads, mass petitions, and other mass-media messages aimed at influencing public policies should be clearly identified as to who produced them and who paid for them. Absent that, such communications should be refused by publishers, producers, and the public. If we tell our children not to accept candy from strangers, we'd do well to remind ourselves why".

Elaine and Tom Hamilton

[The portion over 250 words was paid]

Watershed Council Meeting

Port Orford Watershed Council will meet
March 17 at 7:00 PM at the City Council
Chambers.

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Canopy Project Vote *continued from front cover*

at the animal shelter beat on the cages at the animal shelter with a rubber hose to quiet the dogs down. He said 18 dogs had been euthanized at the animal shelter on Wednesday. (This despite Thorp's efforts to save the dogs)

Lloyd Olds said the County would share with the city the cost of opening the Garrison Lake outlet and would work with the city on a solution.

The commissioners made it known they welcome citizen's comments and ended the formal part of the meeting by giving out their phone numbers and e-mail addresses. Here they are as follows:

Lloyd Olds

Home phone and fax 469-7777

Bill Roberts

Home phone 469-1979

Home fax 469-4FAX

E-mail billroberts@wave.net

Cheryl Thorp

Home phone 469-2207

Home fax 469-5242

E-mail thorp@harborside.com

County office 247-7011, ext. 222

Simplicity by Paula Cracas

Almost as often as you hear and read about recycling, you see articles about voluntary simplicity. How to downsize in an upscale world? Even television is getting in on the trend when last Sunday PBS ran a program titled *Escape from Affluenza*: cures for consumerism and materialism. The larger goal of simplifying is to reduce wasteful overconsumption and put your income into alignment with your values. Or how to live better on less.

A number of people featured on that program are using worms to reduce their garbage bill by feeding their worms what would usually go into the landfills. Why? Because one ton of solid waste goes into our landfills each year for every man, woman, and child. Technology can not increase the capacity of the environment to absorb 25 billion tons of waste Americans create annually.

One shocking point made on the program is that we would need four planets to support the world at the same level of the United States of America! Couple that with results of survey that people today

are not happier than people forty years ago ... and people forty years ago had half as much as we do today. Are we buying our way into unhappiness? Recently our country has seen a rise in bankruptcy and credit card debt. Because many people don't understand basic financing, when credit card companies charge 20% or more interest, the minimum payment every month won't reduce the basic amount owed. So keeping up with the Jones becomes more and more of a challenge. And more and more expensive. Do you think we as a country can maintain our current level of consumption?

What can one individual do? Evan Kramer lent me a terrific book titled "*A Reasonable Life*" by Ferenc Mate. Well-written and full of helpful insights and suggestions, I was so impressed with it, I purchased copies for my children and a couple friends. Mate says "only a few of us dream of having missiles, tanks, bombers, and rockets to the moon, yet the world is littered with them; hardly anyone dreams of pesticides and freeways, yet they're choking us to death; no one dreams of junk mail, yet we're drowning in the stuff; no one I know dreams of stripmalls and fastfood chains, yet there are a hundred to a mile! How the hell did it happen that the things hardly any of us want are burying us all, while the simple town we all dream of we can rarely find?" I recommend this book highly for its thought provoking questions and answers.

Simplicity is simple. Cut back. Use less. Recycle. Reuse. Reduce. Do less. Set aside one day a month to do nothing. Find time for family, friends, fun and community service. What are some of the ways you have simplified your life? Write to me at the Fun Zone.

"The single most important contribution any of us can make to the planet is a return to frugality." Robert Muller, Retired Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations.

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