

Port Orford *Today!*

Serving the Port Orford area since 1990

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Thursday, March 18, 1999

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The Downtown Fun Zone

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<http://www.harborside.com/funzone>

FREE!

For Sale!

For Sale by Valerie Jean Kramer

You may have seen the signs and yes, it's true - The Downtown Fun Zone is for sale. This may take a lot of you by surprise but I've been muttering about it for a couple of years. Evan has finally decided it's time and we've set the wheels in motion.

The first question everyone seems to ask is, "Why?" I have several reasons. Working on my genealogy for the last few years has made me want to move back to the Cleveland, Ohio area so I can spend more time with my parents and other kinfolk. I'd also like to spend a few more years working at a higher salary before I retire. Evan's in an even worse situation since he used to work for the government and has little Social Security income on file. I also feel like I'm burned out on this job. It's become too routine and I'd like something different, preferably something with a challenge and an opportunity to learn new skills. The nine years that I've been in Port Orford is the longest that I've stayed at any one place since I got out of high school.

We plan to continue running the business until it's sold. We hope we can find a buyer who wants to take it over and continue operating the Fun Zone. If you

are interested in buying it, please contact Dale Dearing at C.A. Smith Realty at (541) 332-4132 or 800-332-6898 or visit their web site at <http://www.rwre.com/casmith/>.

Fishermen Voice Frustrations By Evan Kramer



Local fishermen, area citizens and elected officials filled the meeting room at Premium Pacific Seafoods on Wednesday afternoon when they met with representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Steve Chesser, Doris McKillip and Pat Obradovich represented the Corps and had come to the Port of Port Orford to discuss dredging issues and a dredge management plan. They were taken aback by the large turnout and Chesser remarked Gayle Paige was full of surprises as he surveyed the crowd. Chesser started with an overview of the situation saying Nehalem dredging had been down here three times this winter and the Sandwick dredge barge was scheduled to come down soon. Chesser said the Corps had to look at a long-term solution and a better way of doing things.

Pat Obradovich asked **why** the problem this year and port manager Gayle Paige told her there were 65,000 cubic yards of

excess material (sand) in the harbor. She referred to the dredging of sand as recycling material and said we had to get the sand out of the harbor.

Harry Allen suggested getting the Yaquina down here and removing a large quantity of sand from the harbor. Mike Ashdown suggested the Corps use the clamshell dredge, which he said could solve the problem for up to five years. Gayle Paige said the sanding in of the harbor caused a \$600,000 loss in product over the dock the first three months of 1998. Gayle said boat hoists were down from what should have been 250-300 to 40 in February of this year. Bob Walters asked why the Corps couldn't bring down engineers to plan and help resolve the situation. He asked for a long-term study.

Chesser said it costs \$6500 a day to operate the dredging barge Sandwick but he had no explanation as to why it costs so much. Bill Oleson stated we've had the studies - why can't we bring the Nehalem in? Gayle Paige said a recurring problem is the Port always facing new people in the Corps and educating them about our problems. The Corps will get a new colonel this summer. She asked the three Corps employees when they would come back to Port Orford with answers.

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	Sun						Moon						
	Midnight to Noon			Noon to Midnight			Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Phase		
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	
Fri Mar 19	12:39a	7.7	6:50a	0.2	12:58p	7.4	7:02p	0.4	6:21a	6:29p	8:06a	9:06p	
Sat Mar 20	1:16a	7.9	7:39a	-0.1	1:51p	6.9	7:44p	1.0	6:19a	6:30p	8:42a	10:16p	
Sun Mar 21	1:57a	7.9	8:32a	-0.2	2:50p	6.4	8:29p	1.7	6:17a	6:31p	9:22a	11:24p	
Mon Mar 22	2:42a	7.8	9:31a	-0.2	3:56p	5.9	9:20p	2.4	6:15a	6:33p	10:06a	12:30a	
Tue Mar 23	3:34a	7.5	10:36a	-0.1	5:14p	5.5	10:24p	3.0	6:14a	6:34p	10:55a	1:31a	
Wed Mar 24	4:35a	7.1	11:48a	0.0	6:37p	5.4	11:43p	3.3	6:12a	6:35p	11:49a	2:26a	1Q
Thu Mar 25	5:47a	6.9	1:01p	0.1	7:54p	5.6			6:10a	6:36p	12:46p	3:15a	

**Senior News
By Mary Yoder**

March 11 was Rotary luncheon. Here are the volunteers who were thanked by the Rotary members for such a nice luncheon – Bessie Laursen, Mary Evans, Betty Harper, June Dennison as usual doing a nice job setting up the dining room – Harold Pace and Bill Butt doing dishes, etc. Pat worked also.

March 13 was corned beef and cabbage luncheon and boy was it good. Making it that way were June Dennison, Lee Heyl, Bessie Laursen – and Orville Laursen setting up the tables. David Walkup and Bill Butt doing dishes and clean up.

Also the Sing a longs entertain and they really did. They sung so nice and what beautiful songs. They were the right ones for Saint Patrick’s day.

Then same time was the birthday party. We all sang happy birthday to the birth-

day people. The birthday cake was beautiful – made by Julie Barnes and a big thank you to the Sea Breeze flower shop for the lovely flower arrangement. It made the day.

The rummage sale was 8:00am till 1:00pm. What’s his name and Bobbetta Kron took care of it.

March 14 was the breakfast from 8:00am till 1:00pm. Also rummage sale from 8:00am to 1:00pm. These are the volunteers who made it so nice – June Dennison, Lee Hyle, Betty Berger, Bessie Laursen, Greta Carver, Orville Laursen – setting up the dining room – Betty Harper and Bill Butt dishes and things – downstairs rummage sale Bobbetta Kron – what’s his name and I saw Henry Kron too.

March 15 starting at 7:00pm was pinochle – High-E. David Klein – Second-Betty Harper – Low-Judy Peacock Klein

Blood pressure and hearing aid tests on March 23 from 9:30am to noon.

I hope I’ve said it all – not missed anyone – or anything.

Will close with this.

There is no friend like an old friend
 Who has shared our morning days,
 No greeting like his welcome
 No homage like his praise.

Fame is the scentless sunflower
 With a gaudy crown of gold,
 But friendship is the breathing rose
 With sweets in every fold.

Meet the Sheriff

North Curry County residents will have an opportunity to meet Curry County Sheriff Kent Owens on Thursday night. This town hall meeting takes place from 6:30-8:00pm at Port Orford City Hall in the council chambers. Sheriff Owens will participate with the public in a question and answer forum. Everyone is welcome.

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Actors

By Graeme Graydon

Have you ever wondered at the sameness of your life, the day to day repetition, the replays? It seems to me that people get stuck in a role never dreaming that like any good actor they could change to an entirely different role, not by choice so much as allowing Destiny to take a hand. I know that I have a whole closet-full of costumes and a suitcase full of scripts that I carry with me. All it takes is an abrupt change of scenery on my stage for me to make a quick costume change and play out a different role. It's always a surprise when it happens and when it is done I walk off the stage – right back into my usual self again, wondering if it really happened at all.

A few years back, I was in the north of India, just after Christmas with a large group of friends and fellow students. We were to be ferried across a wide, flooded river to visit an old sage who was a National Treasure on account of his very great age and presumably, his wisdom. Waiting for us were three dilapidated barges at the water's muddy edge, each powered by a skinny little Hindu equipped with a long pole. We clambered gingerly

into the ancient craft – about 30 people in each and after much pushing and shoving set out to cross the river.

Now this was no ordinary scene. A cold, shimmering mist wrapped around us, everything except the people were shades of gray – the sluggish water merged with the sky, the shore disappeared. The other two boats appeared to float in a surreal cloud. I could see or thought I could see a great distance, but there was nothing to be seen. It was so awesome that no one made a sound – I never heard anyone speak. In slow-motion the barge ahead of us ran aground on a hidden mud-bank. Our boatman put down his pole, jumped into the shallow water and waded across to help free it as we drifted silently by. By the time they unglued it we were hundreds of yards ahead – with no boatman.

Without thinking, I left my uncomfortable seat, picked up the pole and plied it deftly to catch up with the lead barge. No one in the boat said a word – I don't know that they even noticed I was in command. This was so familiar to me, the slow, even rhythm of the pole in my hands – I had done this a thousand times somewhere, push and watch, poised for the next stroke, change sides, wait some more. It was as

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natural as breathing. Time became timeless. Finally the shore ghosted into view, curiously dotted with points of red fire. There was a suggestion of a current and then side by side with the lead boat, I changed course, crossed into the current and nosed softly into the muddy bank, holding it there while everyone got off. Not one person broke the silence, the other boatman secured my bow and I walked ashore picking my way between mounds of embers of funeral pyres to join my friends in the mist. But now I was me again, my ferryman had left.

It was months later, back in Oregon that someone remembered that I had poled a barge. Roseanne said "I looked up and saw you bringing your people across the water and my inner response was – "Graeme, of course, who else?" and she went back unconcerned, to her reverie.

We had all been caught up in the play – actors on a stage.

Cape Blanco Partners

The Bureau of Land Management has scheduled a Cape Blanco Partners meeting for Thursday, March 25, from 9:00am to noon in the Meeting Yurt at Bullards Beach State Park. Tom Sill, Outdoor Recreation Planner for the BLM will lead the meeting. The primary purpose is to make sure everything is ready to go for starting another season of regular tours. Refreshments will be served. See you there!



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Fight Hunger and Poverty

More than a dozen youth and their Sunday School teachers from the Port Orford Christian Center will go without food for 30 hours on March 27-28 to help fight hunger and poverty around the world. The local teens will join thousands of others across the United States and Canada in the annual World Vision 30 Hour Famine.

Participants ask family, friends, and neighbors to sponsor them with pledges as they go without food for 30 hours to identify with those who are hungry. Through videos, games, seminars, and involvement in local community service projects, they learn about hunger and what they can do to help others.

As part of the Famine, local participants will meet at the Christian Center at noon on March 28 to launch a final walk through Port Orford to seek last minute pledges

while they are still fasting. At 5:00pm the teens will watch a World Vision video that explains the seriousness of world hunger. World Vision estimates that over 35,000 children worldwide will die during the 30 hour fast period from malnutrition and hunger related diseases. By participating in the fast, teens will learn to emphasize with the plight of the less fortunate and also work to raise funds to curb the impact of starvation. Only 50 cents a day can provide a child with enough food to stave off starvation and disease. Anyone interested in participating in World Vision 30 Hours Famine or in sponsoring a participant through a tax-deductible donation can contact Rich Jamieson at 332-8733.

In 1998, more than 600,000 young people in the United States raised over six million dollars through the World Vision 30 Hour Famine. Similar famine events around the world involved over one and a half million participants who raised twenty

million dollars for World Vision's hunger and poverty-fighting programs. World Vision is the largest privately funded, international nonprofit Christian relief and development agency in the country.

Spring Beach Cleanup By Laura Rhodes, Park Ranger

Get out your heavy rubber gloves and join thousands of other volunteers as they participate in "The Oregon Great Spring Beach Cleanup."

There will be access point coordinators at Cape Blanco State Park beach parking lot, Battle Rock City Park, Ophir Rest Area, and Gold Beach on the South Jetty. These are meeting sites for signing in, getting SOLV garbage bags and receiving safety tips.

This annual event gives citizens of the local area a chance to participate in enhancing the cleanliness of a beautiful asset, our beaches. Through the beach clean up we provide cleaner, safer beaches for both Oregonians and the invaluable tourists who come to enjoy our beaches. I am hoping that together we can make this year's annual beach clean up a big success!

If you would like more information on this year's "Spring Beach Cleanup" call Laura Rhodes or Pat Bry at Humbug Mountain State Park, 332-6774, Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 4:30pm.

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Rumors By Paula Cracas

During the last great war (that would be World War II) many items were in short supply, were needed as part of the war effort, and were rationed. Sugar, gasoline, coffee, butter, etc. You can probably think of other things you did without. Coleridge wrote "Water, water everywhere, Nor any drop to drink." But wouldn't it be difficult to do without water? Many people in town are so worried about the purity of our city water supply, they aren't drinking it. The likelihood our water supply might be contaminated doesn't seem possible, does it? How could that happen? Who is minding the store? Isn't anybody keeping track? Isn't anybody in charge? Why isn't something being done? This week's RUMOR has to do with water. Our city water. And answers those questions.

We take our water for granted. . . turn on the tap and it better be there. And it better be pure and safe. Lucky are the folks who have wells, we say; they know their water is good. Woe to us on city water, with La Nina promising more and more rains and storms, which adds to the turbidity of Hubbard Creek, our city water source.

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Which means we will continue to see those notices that our drinking water failed to meet minimum treatment requirements. But does turbidity mean microbiological contaminants are in our water or what does it mean?

To get answers I could understand, I talked to Allen Wagner who is in charge of monitoring our city water supply. Allan explained the difference between NTU's (National Turbidity Units) and bacteria contamination. And there's a big difference! Think of a puddle of water in your back yard. When you put your hand in that puddle and splash it around, the water will get muddy or "thick with roiled sediment" (to quote my dictionary's definition of turbid). Why be concerned about turbidity and NTU's? Because bacteria could be hidden in those particles of roiled sediment. That's why twice a month, Allan takes samples of our water and has it tested for coliforms. The definition of coliforms is "any of several bacilli living in the intestines." In other words, the bacteria in fecal matter. If any of the tests showed fecal bacteria, five more tests would be required. NONE of Allan's samples have shown any fecal or coliform bacteria. To put it simply, that means the

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city water is safe - with or without turbidity - at this time. If bacteria did show up in Port Orford water samples city water users would be required to boil their water. In the future, some improvements will be made to our water treatment plant. The city is looking for alternate water sources now that Garrison Lake is still taking on sea-water.

Since I'm curious about the purity my water and I want to find out for myself about my water, Allan agreed to test my tap water and water which I run through a PUR water filter. I'll report on the results in a future column.

Letter to the Editor,

Everyday I take long walks with my dog. I am appalled at the amount of garbage that is thrown out in our beautiful town. I see bottles, paper, cardboard, and other litter, especially in vacant lots.

We want our town to be beautiful and scenic not littered with garbage.

We need our community to be aware of this problem and help clean it up so we can be proud for people to drive through.

Savannah Tremmel

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Letter to the Editor,

Despite current activity in the Oregon Legislative Assembly concerning charter schools, the Curry County Committee for Public Education has come to the conclusion that charter schools would seriously undercut needed financing for existing public schools and should not be approved.

Charter schools are publicly funded schools that operate free from many of the state laws and district rules that govern regular schools. They function under a "charter," or contract, that spells out their program, rules, and expected educational outcomes for students. Theoretically, they would provide competition to regular schools.

We have studied reports about the workings of so-called charter schools operating in Oregon under existing law as well as the rapidly growing charter schools in other states, especially Arizona, Michigan and California.

There is evidence that some of those schools have been successful so far in meeting their students' needs while many other problems as bad as – and in some cases worse than those found in traditional schools.

We believe that adequately funded traditional public schools, which we see as the foundation of democracy, can be as flexible and enthusiastic in serving the needs of our communities and their students as

the proposed charters. We cheat ourselves when we continue to add responsibilities to our schools while cutting their support.

To paraphrase a 1997 Oregonian editorial: "If legislators approve a charter school bill before they fund the rest of education, they'll be promoting the mediocrity they say they want to end."

Evelyn Allen, President
Curry County Committee
for Public Education

Chautauqua Presentation

Chautauqua presenter Frederick Reenstjerna will present "The Moving People: The Ulster Mind in the States of Jefferson and Franklin" on Saturday, March 20 at the Port Orford City hall council chambers. Through slides and discussion, the historian connects cultural patterns among Southern Oregon settlers with Scottish and Irish immigrants to Pre-Revolutionary America. This presentation explores how basic values about such fundamentals as the nature of family and government can be transmitted over time and distance. It will show how historical experience in distant lands centuries ago can affect how Oregonians think about current social issues.

As the author of the book, **Life in Douglas County, Oregon** he combines a wide range of experience in historical research with practical experience. Fred's

connection to Oregon history is long, if indirect. A graduate of the College of Charleston in South Carolina, he shares his alma mater with John C. Fremont whose reports on the Oregon country became popular guidebooks and inspirations for later wagon-train settlers. Fred's explorations of Oregon are cultural and retrospective: he is seeking the sources of the traditions and behaviors brought to Oregon by immigrants since the time of Fremont. This presentation is sponsored by the Oregon Council for the Humanities and the Port Orford Arts Council. Refreshments will be available for sale before the presentation which begins at 7:00pm. Come help us celebrate the Oregon lifestyle with your friends and neighbors.

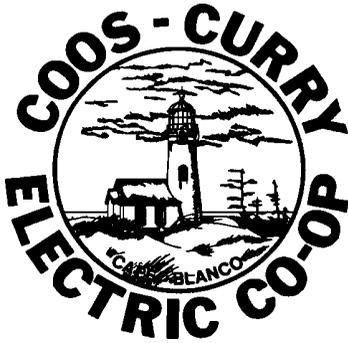
Beginning Jewelry Class

Southwestern Oregon Community College is adding more, and different art classes to the schedule. Jo Bailey is offering Beginning Jewelry (Silversmithing) on Tuesdays from 6:30-9:30pm in Gold Beach. Explore basic silversmithing techniques and processes. Topics to be covered include sawing, piercing, soldering and stone setting. The class starts April 6.

Call Southwestern for more information or to register in Gold Beach at 247-2741 or in Port Orford on Fridays at 332-3023.

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Shape Up for Spring

Time to dust off the cobwebs, clean out of the mold, and get in shape. Spring is the time to shape up those bodies, stretch out your muscles and just get moving again. Southwestern Oregon Community College is here to help you do just that.

The physical education classes in Port Orford offer a variety of styles to get you moving. To help with balance, coordination and stretch, Laurie Johnson proposes a class in Tai Chi. Enhance and maintain health with this slow, relaxing, flowing exercise. Johnson's class is Friday, from 8:30am to 10:00am.

Ava Peterson presents her two sessions of Yoga for the Spring term. This is an easy, traditional yoga approach to exercise and relaxation, suitable for all ages. There is a session on Tuesday and one on Wednesday. Both classes run from 5:00 to 6:30pm.

If you want to improve your cardiovascular system, muscle strength and flexibility, try aerobics. There is both an evening and a morning class offered by Donna Zitzelberger. Monday, Wednesday and Friday class is 9:00-10:00am and the Tuesday and Thursday class is 6:30-8:00pm.

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Here are three great ways to get exercise and meet some fun people. Spring term starts March 29. Check Southwestern's schedule for other classes and activities.

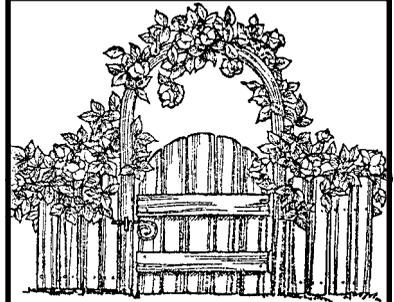
Call Southwestern for more information or to register in Gold Beach at 247-2741 or Port Orford on Fridays at 332-3023.

Wildlife Survey Contract

The Curry County Board of Commissioners will hold a meeting on Monday, March 22, at 10:00am in the Commissioners Hearing Room, 94235 Moore Street, Gold Beach. The Board of Commissioners will consider the award of a contract/contracts for wildlife surveys on canopy project sites. The Board of Commissioners will hold a workshop at a later date to receive information regarding a vote on the canopy project.

Chamber Speaker

The Port Orford Chamber of Commerce is hosting guest speaker Wayne Luzier at their membership meeting on Monday, March 22, noon, at the Wheelhouse Restaurant. Luzier represents the Coos Curry Douglas business association. Everyone is welcome to attend.



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Ah, the sound of an auction. The thrill of a good buy! Perhaps even more addictive, the results of a good sale! Now you can have it all on the Internet. One of the hottest sites is Ebay (www.ebay.com) where the auction action is non-stop 24 hours a day. They claim 1,871,690 items for sale in 1,096 categories and more than 600 million page views per month! That's a lot of people buying and selling!

I've sold two things so far and bought one so I'm not exactly a dab hand yet but it's pretty easy to do. It costs \$2 to list an item for sale and a small percentage (never over 5%) of the sale price. Auctions usually run for 7 days and the hottest action is often in the last few minutes when a competitor may try to steal a bargain from the unwary. Ebay doesn't charge anything to bid or buy.

Payment, shipping, and other details are arranged between the seller and the highest bidder. Ebay merely provides the place for the auction to happen.

I'm hooked. This site can be great but do be careful - where there's money, there are also criminals and scam artists. Besides, it can be very addictive!

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Todd Merryman (owner) WWC#1604 CCB# 121259



Fire Destroys House

An early morning fire on Saturday destroyed an unoccupied manufactured house on Idaho Street. The Port Orford Fire Department responded to the fire alarm at 6:00am with two engines, the rural tender and the salvage van. The burning house was located three blocks

away from the fire station, which was covered with smoke when firefighters arrived. The manufactured house had only been moved on to the lot on the north side of Idaho at 16th Street earlier in the week. Crews had been working on a brick foundation for the unit but that work had not been completed.



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The house was gutted with fire venting through the roof and windows and burning through the floor. According to Fire Chief George Gehrke the fire is of undetermined origin but is under investigation by the State Fire Marshal's office.

Note: This picture is best viewed in **COLOR** on our web site at www.harborside.com/funzone/dfz-pot.htm

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FINANCIAL RECORDS in a jumble? Get them organized in 1999. I will come to your home or business to help with basic bookkeeping for taxes and business analysis. Also balance checkbooks. References available. (541) 348-2360.

1980 CHEVY LOW-RIDER P.U. Truck Black, CD, dual tanks must see to appreciate. (541) 660-2615

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EVAN WENT NUTS! Wow do we have a lot of primo new movies this week! Don't expect every week to be like this - we can't afford it! "One True Thing", "The Wonderful Ice Cream Suit", "Forever Love", "From Dusk til Dawn 2", "The Waterboy", "Bullworth", "Living Out Loud" and four new Sony Playstation games: "Crash Bandicoot", "Spyro the Dragon", "Star Wars Masters", and "Coolboarders 3". 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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Continued on next page

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VISTA Project

The Family Empowerment is an AMERICORP VISTA project. VISTA stands for Volunteers In Service to America. VISTA's serve in communities all across the United States by encouraging and helping persons from all walks of life and age groups.

The Family Empowerment Project is a program that is sponsored by SCF and the Community Partnership-Volunteer Program. The Project matches community volunteers to work with families who have a history of chronic neglect. Volunteers work with families on building and reinforcing family's strengths and allowing them to do things for themselves while giving support and encouragement. The purpose of Family Empowerment is to enhance understanding of child development and good parenting through volunteer family advocates.

Volunteers will provide encouragement and support to families, help them access community resources and to provide healthy atmosphere through advocacy. Project volunteers should have strong nurturing/parenting skills, patience, and flexibility. Volunteers must be non-judgmental and accepting differing values and lifestyles. If you're interested contact Krista Olson at 1-800-510-0000, extension 228 for more information.

Letter to the Editor,

Republicans seem to have good evidence that the voters quickly forget Republican legislators actions that are clearly contrary to voters expressed wishes.

In 1997, Oregonians soundly rejected, by a two-thirds vote, the effort by the Republican majority in the state legislature to repeal our Death with Dignity law passed by initiative three years before.

Now, in 1999, early in the new legislative session, in which Republicans again have a majority, they have introduced in both House and Senate, measures to restrict access to that new law that is obviously working well.

Several bills have been combined into one in the Senate and illustrate the Republicans unremitting hostility to carrying out the will of the voters. SB491 would require those patients who request death with dignity to submit to a mandatory psychiatric examination, would limit where they can take the prescribed medication and with whom, would require the medication label to state its purpose, would prohibit coverage under the Oregon Health Plan, and would require that all paperwork related to the request be sent to the Attorney General so that names of patients and doctors would become public.

Similar bills have been introduced in the House and at least one other in the Senate. Hearings will begin in Salem on March 17.

If Oregonians do remember and care, it is imperative that we contact our legislators immediately and alert our like-minded friends.

Betty Crooks

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Knapps, Van Loo Win

The recently held special districts election featured few contested races. David L. Knapp defeated Eric Oberbeck for Port of Port Orford Commissioner #4 by a vote of 324 to 231. Chris Hawthorne, David Darnell and Leesa Cobb were all elected to the Port Commission unopposed.

Mike Knapp defeated Merri Lang and Perry E. Pendergrass for Port Orford/Langlois 2CJ school district board position #2 by a margin of 289 to 247 for Lang and 204 for Pendergrass. Shirley Van Loo defeated David Kight with a vote of 483 to 254 for School Board position #6. John C. Jensen was elected unopposed for board position #3.

All other North Curry County special districts candidates were elected unopposed.

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Fishermen Voice Frustrations *continued from front cover*

Mike Ashdown brought up the clamshell dredge idea again and said when they had done it before the effects lasted five years. Chesser said the issue with the clamshell dredge is where you put the sand. He said the closest ocean disposal site is in Gold Beach.

Steve Chesser said the Corps's authorized project at the Port Orford dock is dredging a 100' by 300' turning base adjacent to the boat hoist.

Gayle Paige said the wintertime is the most critical to the Port and is when the most product comes in. She asked if the Corps could increase the number of yards of sand dredged from the current level of 2,000. Chris Aiello suggested use of a small barge like the Bar-Fly to do the job. He told the Corps they have a problem **now** and the local fishermen need a solution for today, a five-year and a ten-year solution. He told them they dug the hole in the wrong place. Jack Guerin said there was no problem before the jetty was constructed in 1968. He recommended taking the end of the jetty off and moving it over. David Darnell said he wouldn't take his boat out until something is done.

Gayle Paige said we don't have a "flushing jetty." She said the jetty is breaking apart at the dogleg and emphasized the Corps needs to increase flushing through the harbor.

Port commissioner Scott MacDonald said we need an ocean disposal site for the sand. Chesser responded by saying the Corps would do whatever it takes to keep the Port open and dredged. He estimated it would take three years to get an approved ocean disposal site.

Chesser said the Sandwick was scheduled to reach Port Orford on April 1 but it depends on when it can get out past the Columbia River bar.

Port Orford city councilor Jane Cramer told the Corps the health of the city's economy is reliant on the Port. She said we need a final solution to the sanding in problem. Pam MacDonald said she hadn't received a paycheck in two months and pointedly told the three Corps employees they get paid every week. She expressed frustration with the Port being back at ground zero and that it needs to be open in winter when the fishermen make their money.

Other solutions to the shoaling or sanding

in problem included dredging a trough all the way out past the jetty and pushing the sand into the hole and then pumping it over the jetty.

Jack Guerin displayed several old photos of the Port back when it was a deep-water port and lumber ships plied their trade at the Port.

Steve Chesser promised "we're not going into next winter without new solutions." He asked what the people wanted from the Corps. Gayle Paige said the Port doesn't want to get in the dredging business. Someone said it all when they exclaimed, "We want to go fishing!" Another suggestion to Chesser was to begin the disposal site process. Chesser said the immediate problem is to keep the Port open. He said the Sandwick would be here as soon as possible though Doris McKillip said it was not a seaworthy vessel.

Chesser said between now and April 1 the Corps would try to keep the Port open but Paige reminded him we're not open now. Chesser said he would work on an ocean disposal site for the sand and will follow up with a letter to the Port. He did say the \$48,000 for the disposal site had been crossed out and was no longer in the 2000 budget.

Chesser ended the formal part of the meeting by promising the Port to send them a letter about the Corps sense of the meeting and that he understood the urgency of this meeting. He said he wouldn't make any promises the Corps couldn't keep.

The meeting was promoted as a chance for the Corps to discuss the "dredge management plan" which they did not do nor do they have one.

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School Web Page

Did you know that our local school district has a web page? It's at

<http://www.2cj.com/>