

# Tunnel Echoes

A Newsletter May 2013

## Arch Cape/Falcon Cove Beach Community

Welcome to spring in Arch Cape

### Happy Spring!

Looks like summer may be arriving early. Yea!

The Seaside School Board has proposed closing Cannon Beach Elementary School at the end of this year for budget reasons. As you know, I have been a vocal proponent of keeping an elementary school in our community. In my opinion the most important thing we can do is raise our children to be caring, responsible adults. That is accomplished, again, in my opinion, by parental and community involvement in the education process.

The choice of the school board to close our school is frustrating.

When the Cannon Beach City Council proposed closing the school 18 months ago, we formed a task force and found property suitable for a school and are in the process of raising money to build



the school. This latest action by the school board presents a new challenge.

Four members of the community and myself have formed a "steering committee" to examine the possibility of forming a public charter school to serve the parents of Cannon Beach, Arch Cape and potentially extending to families who live on Highway 26.

A public charter school makes sense for many reasons. First, it is a public school; the operating costs are paid by the parent school district (so no new taxes).

Second, we can design the curriculum to best meet the needs of our children. For example: How 'bout a school that is focused on teaching respect and appreciation for all cultures, the environment, and the arts? We can do that. A school that makes parent and community involvement in the education process a priority? We can do that.

We need your help

We are holding a public meeting to discuss the process involved to create a charter school.

**6PM, Tuesday, 7 May at Canon Beach Elementary School.**

If you can make it, please do. If not, feel free to contact me. We need like minded folks help keep our school in our community.

Questions, comments, critiques? Let us (let me) know.

[philip.simmons@gmail.com](mailto:philip.simmons@gmail.com)

Phil



## PEOPLE

By Linda Lapp-Murray

**Danña Kittel** remembers her mother would pack up her and her sister Kara to “play hooky” from their Portland school for a happy day at the beach. That joy she felt as a child on the beach has stayed with her. So when her sister married my son Hamish and her family came to “the three day wedding on the beach” at Arch Cape, she & her husband Geoff decided to have their own place in paradise.

The plan came together back in August 2003 when they purchased their home at the corner of Shanks Lane & Highway 101. They searched from Gearhart to Rockaway, but Arch Cape had stolen their hearts. As fate would

have it, only 2 weeks later, Geoff was promoted by his company, Thyssen Elevator & the family had to move to the bay area.

They lived in California for just 2 years. When they returned to Oregon, they moved into the Arch Cape house. Their oldest daughter Lexie went to 2nd grade at Cannon Beach Elementary, while the two younger children, Ian and Vani attended pre-school at Cannon Beach Children’s Center.

She remembers the fun of living at the beach – walking at sunrise with Ian in a back pack, amazed by the tide pools & rocks as they headed to Hug Point.

There is also the memory of the summer day Tom Merrell dropped by to tell her a black bear had been seen along the highway. She popped kids in the car & they took off to see the bear. As Danna puts it, “How often would you see a bear along the road in town?!”

It was a joyous time for Danna & the kids living in paradise, but the commute to Portland for work was awfully tough on Daddy, so they decided to move back to Portland. At about the same time, they discovered their beach house was riddled with mold. A remodel was called for.

Danna, Geoff & I worked on the plans together. Their goal was to

respect the character of the house and keep the work within the existing footprint, but make better use of the space. Geoff oversaw the whole project as general contractor, living in a little trailer parked outside while the house was completely gutted. So once again, Geoff found himself commuting to work in Portland from the beach. Meanwhile, Danna acted as decorator and the result is a stunning mid-century modern home with a nice ocean view.

Danna decided to take over management of their home rental. She was so successful, that their next door neighbors asked her for help and Starfish Vacation Rentals was born.

Danna now manages two houses in Arch Cape & two in Rockaway. Because she has lived here & knows lots of locals, she is very picky about who she rents to. She has also become active as a community club board member, carefully planning the commute from Portland to attend meetings and help where she can. She feels our secluded neighborly community attracts renters and citizens who are looking for a quiet, family beach, just like what she and her family found here in Arch Cape.





## Asbury Creek Brings out the "Town"

By: Nadia Gardner

Ecola Watershed Council and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) held an open house on March 23rd at the new Arch Cape Fire Station. More than thirty local residents and landowners attended. They learned about plans to replace the culvert that carries Asbury Creek under Highway 101. The culvert is located just south of Shark Creek Lane.

Asbury and Shark Creeks used to host anadromous salmon and steelhead species. Shark Creek empties into Asbury Creek just upstream from Highway 101 and the ocean. Anadromous fish are fish that live part of their lives in the ocean and part in fresh water. When the State built

Highway 101, they put Asbury Creek in a culvert and over time a waterfall formed on the west, ocean-side of the culvert. Fish are unable to jump up the more than 15 foot man-made waterfall.

The culvert is scheduled for replacement in the next 20 years. The Watershed Council applied for and was awarded a salmon-focused grant to help pay for the design of a fish friendly replacement. ODOT has pledged significant funding and moved up the timeline in support of the effort.

The Watershed Council and ODOT are hoping to complete the project within two to three years. Highway traffic will be re-routed on a temporary bridge built to the east of the existing highway. For more information, contact the Watershed Council Coordinator, Jesse Jones at (503) 325-0435 or [jjones@columbiaestuary.org](mailto:jjones@columbiaestuary.org)

## Thoughts on the February Community Club Potluck

By: John Piatt

February's potluck was full of new energy due to our new location and some new features. Rather than go right into the potluck, we started with a tour the new fire station. The new kitchen allowed us to keep food warm in the oven

for this period. Also new, beverages were provided for a nominal donation to facilitate the social time in the warm meeting room as people gathered prior to the meeting.

Perhaps it was the warmth..... perhaps the new setting..... perhaps the wine.....the thing that caught my attention was that people actually had time to meet other members who weren't family or close neighbors. We weren't in

such a hurry to drop off our dishes, bee-line for a table, and hurry to get into the serving line. It felt more relaxed and what our community club promotes as a goal - a sense of community!

It was so refreshing, we'd like to try a social time with beverages again at the beginning of our fiscal year-end potluck meeting in May. Hope to see you there and maybe meet a few more members that I don't already know.

## Dog Walk News

By: Bob Tarr

Where's the sand? I can tell you that it's not at the foot of the Ocean Lane path. Tim Crawford and I call it "Ocean Lane Bay".



In the 29 years I have lived here, I have only seen the tree roots in the photograph 3 times, and this is the most exposed I have ever seen them. If you are trying to walk from Asbury Creek to Arch Cape Creek (or vice-versa), you can't get around the rocks, mud, tree roots and bay at a -0.2 tide. I know. I tried. That's how I discovered that I need new beach walking shoes.

The sand didn't really start to go out until February this year, but then it went out with a vengeance, and here it is the end of April and it hasn't started to come back yet. Oh, well, not much we can do about it, is there? As my dog-walking buddy Tim Crawford says,

"You've got to play the hand you're dealt".

The good news is that Mike Manzulli and Bob Cerelli LOVE the Ocean Lane Bay. They say that it makes for great surfing just out from the bay, but be careful because there's a strong rip tide there, too.

Daryl Eigen's presentation of his book, A Hellish Place of Angels, went beautifully last month. He had his computer and projector, and his talk was considerably enhanced by the Power Point (I think Power Point; now that I'm an elderly retired gentleman, I pay no attention to technology any more) presentation that he gave with his talk. It was the biggest crowd we've had for a Cannon Beach Library 2nd Saturday author, standing room only. Thank you, Daryl!

Speaking of surfing, Bob Cerelli spent a week with his and Sandy's daughter Micah, down in California, I think it was in March (February?), surfing and living the good life. Bob said it was wonderful. All building houses and no surfing vacations with your daughter would make for a dull life, eh?

Meanwhile, Mike Manzulli and Nadia Gardner went surfing and exploring in Ecuador. They went for 3 weeks and spent time in Quito, the capital of Ecuador, which is 12,000 ft. high, went to Mindo, one of the best birding spots in the Cloud Forest, then rented a car and drove 3/4 of the coastline.



But what, you may ask, of Orlo? Did they take him as carry on luggage? Nope, Orlo stayed home. But not alone. Noah Dooley, Noah's wife Criss, and Criss's mother who came up from Quito, Ecuador to Arch Cape to visit, stayed at Mike and Nadia's and dog sat Orlo.

Put May 4th on your calendar, because that's Marney Beemer's birthday. I don't know which birthday, and I don't think she's telling, but I do know that Marney is Arch Cape's oldest full-time resident.

There's no new news to speak of on the new Arch Cape Deli and Tunnel Cafe. Butch Coleman told Jack Birkby that he'd give him 6 months notice before Jack has to close down or move his Arch Cape Thrift Store, so it doesn't look like the ACD&TC will be done this summer. Let us hope for next summer. Jack and Dorothy Meece's old house, the one behind the Deli, was taken down and hauled away in pieces last week, and the owners of The Inn at Arch Cape have planted evergreens between the Inn and the Deli. Quite a change in the view out Jan's and my south facing windows. Pray for sand!



## Emergency Preparedness - Remember Your Pets!

By: Helen Chauncey

You know you need to be prepared for a major disaster, especially “The Big One”. Your pets need to be prepared too.

### 1. Identification and Contact Information.

Your pets may not be with you when disaster strikes or you may be separated during an evacuation. You need to ID your pets. ID tags should be easily readable. On the tags, include 1) the pet's name and your own, 2) your cell phone number, and 3) a contact number outside the north coast area.

Microchips provide ID information even if collars have been removed. Points to remember:

- \* Do not rely on microchips alone; it may be days or weeks before lost pets can be scanned.
- \* Be sure your microchip information is up-to-date and includes your cell phone and an emergency contact outside the north coast area.

Photos. Take a picture of you and your pet together. On the back include the pet's name, rabies

vaccination number, microchip number, and any special physical markings.

### 2. Neighborhood Buddy Systems.

Set up back-up care, a buddy system with one or more neighbors. Exchange information. Include house keys, and information about pet feeding and medical needs.

Pet supplies. Be sure your back-up buddy knows where you keep food, medications, and other essentials for your pet. This should include the location of your pet's evacuation kit.

Veterinary care. Let your back-up buddy know – in writing – if you pre-authorize veterinary care, should your pet need it.

Rescue decal. Keep a rescue decal on your front and back doors, so that emergency responders know there are pets in the house.

### 3. Pet Evacuation Kit.

You have one; you pet needs one also. Your pet's kit should include:

- \* paperwork, including vaccination microchip records
- \* extra leads, harnesses, and soft muzzles
- \* a “soft crate” or other device you can fold and carry
- \* bowls – fold-up plastic bowls, available at camping stores
- \* towels or other padding material
- \* a blanket for scooping up and securing a fearful pet
- \* a 7 day supply of food – dry food is much easier to store and carry than canned

- \* a 2 week supply of prescribed medicines, if needed

Rotate out the food and medicine regularly to be sure your supply is fresh.

### 4. Pet First Aid Kit.

There are many reliable sources of information about pet first aid kits. Add, subtract, and modify to fit your pet's needs.

- \*Blanket
- \*Socks (for use a foot bandages or for warmth)
- \*Nylon leash
- \*Tweezers (flat slant tip instead of the rounded variety)
- \*Tongue depressor (to examine mouth)
- \*Disposable gloves
- \*Rectal thermometer
- \*Disposable safety razor (for shaving fur from around a wound)
- \*Paper towels and hand sanitizer
- \*Penlight
- \*Rolled gauze (for bandaging or making a muzzle)
- \*Adhesive first aid tape
- \*Vet wrap (sticks to itself but not fur)
- \*Anti-bacterial wipes or pads
- \*Q-tips
- \*Hot/cold pack (to reduce swelling)
- \*Nolvasan solution (a type of antiseptic medicine for wounds to deter infection)
- \*Water based lubricant (helpful aid for taking temperature)
- \*Sterile saline eye solution (to flush out eye contaminants and wounds)
- \*Mild grease-cutting dishwashing liquid (to clean contaminated skin or sticky substances)



# First Ever Arch Cape Falcon Cove Beach Go-Kit Contest

By: Helen Chauncey

In February, we held the community's first go-kit contest. We are pleased to announce the winners of this round of the contest. The winners are:

**-Diane and Carl Matson**

**-John and Helen Piatt**

**-Jeannie and David Stockton**

The winners receive home-baked desserts from the contest's baker's menu.

These neighbors have put to use some very fine ideas in assembling their go-kits. We bring you highlights here and hope you will find them useful.



You can fit A LOT in small packs!



Look at all the stuff you can fit.



You're going to need water. Have 1 bottle and put water purification supplies in your pack



You can organize over-the-counter meds and 1st aid supplies in ziplock bags.



There are lots of good ideas in this community! Collect dryer lint, together with a simple flint strike. Presto - a cheap and easy fire starter!

## County Pitches Arch Cape Renewal District

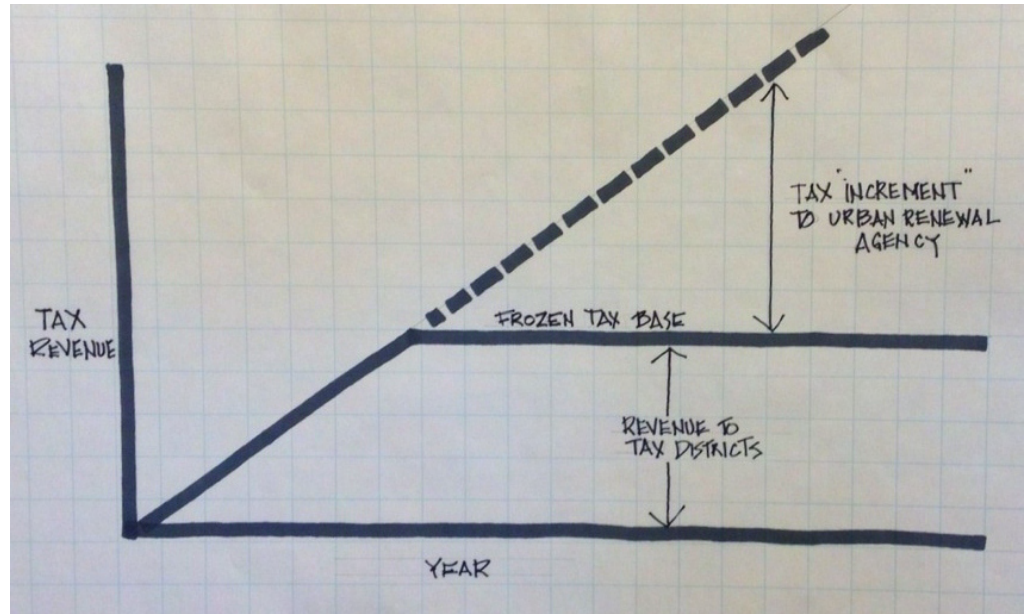
By: Nadia Gardner

Image: Helen Chauncey

More than 40 Arch Cape landowners showed up to the new fire station Saturday, April 20 to hear from Clatsop County staff about one possible way to pay for fixing Arch Cape road and stormwater problems. The County sent out a flyer to all landowners, inviting them to the event. The Community Club also sent out an email reminding members of it.

For years, local citizens have asked the County to help Arch Cape to help them with potholes, an un-safe bridge on Pacific, and flooding caused by lack of a comprehensive stormwater management system. After a public community brainstorming session and numerous conversations at the SW Coastal Citizens Advisory Committee (Arch Cape Design Review Board), an "Options Committee" was formed. They shared a PowerPoint presentation with County staff and the Commission, showing the many issues throughout the community. Arch Cape resident, Debra Birkby was elected to the County Commission in 2010 and has also been instrumental in getting the County's attention.

The problem is, in such a tight budgetary time, how might we pay for the needed upgrades? Throughout Oregon, both cities and unincorporated areas have taken advantage of the ability to form "urban renewal districts". Renewal districts do not add new taxes. Instead, they re-direct the



taxes earned on future increases in assessed values for a certain number of years.

Each year, Assessed Values (what you are taxed on) go up between 2 to 3 percent. Assessed Values are not the same as Real Market Value, what you might be able to sell your house for in a particular year. Oregon's Measure 50, passed in 1997, limited tax Assessed Value to increase a maximum of 3 percent per year even if the Real Market Value has increased significantly more. For this reason, even in recessions when Real Market Values are lower, Assessed Values still increase 2 to 3 percent (but never are above the RMV). For more details, Google "Measure 50 Oregon".

For a renewal district, the current districts (county, fire, water, school, etc.) would continue to receive taxes at the same level as when the new district is formed. However, the additional funds brought in from taxes on the 2 to 3 percent assessed value increase would go to the renewal

district for a period of time, usually 10-20 years. After that time, the funds would return to the other districts.

By law, the County has to be the sponsor and manager of the renewal district. However, staff said they would have a local advisory committee help develop the plan. The plan would lay out how the funds would be used, starting with a comprehensive study of road and stormwater issues and possible solutions.

The next step is continued community education and conversations. If it seems that most are supportive of the concept, the County will hold official public hearings before moving forward.

For more information or to give your two cents, contact:

Commissioner Debra Birkby at 503-739-1099 or [dbirkby@co.clatsop.or.us](mailto:dbirkby@co.clatsop.or.us) or County Manager, Scott Somers at 503-325-1000 or [ssomers@co.clatsop.or.us](mailto:ssomers@co.clatsop.or.us)



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Sharon (Seattle, WA)

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## County Presents Award to John Mersereau

By: Nadia Gardner

Arch Cape resident, John Mersereau was honored by Clatsop County in April. He received the 2012 Outstanding Advisory Committee Volunteer award at the April 10th Clatsop Commission meeting.

In the 1980s, John volunteered as an advisory committee member to develop the Southwest Community Plan, which was integrated in the County's Land and Water Development and Use Ordinance. It lays out all of the



community's special rules, such as preserving native vegetation and protecting our streams. He was also a longtime volunteer on the Southwest Coastal Citizens Advisory Committee, also known as the Arch Cape Design Review Committee.

John was nominated by Commissioner Debra Birkby, also an Arch Cape resident. She writes: "Thirty years of continuous service to Clatsop County and the Arch Cape Community says it best. To stay dedicated to a volunteer Advisory Committee to represent the universal ideals of protection of our beaches, mountains, forests, streams and water resources for continued livability of the north coast of Oregon is a remarkable feat and one that should not go unrecognized".



# DATES

Some dates to be aware of.

Got a date you think we would all benefit from? Drop us a line!

[philip.simmons@gmail.com](mailto:philip.simmons@gmail.com)

NOTE: Design Review held 1st and/or 3rd Wed of each month...posted as needed.

## May

**3-5**

"Spring Unveiling"  
Cannon Beach

**7**

Meeting on Forming a  
Charter School  
6PM-Cannon Beach  
School

**18**

Community Club:  
Meeting/Pot Luck  
6PM-At the Fire Hall

**20**

Ecola Watershed  
Council  
4:30PM-AC Fire Hall

## June

**1**

State Parks Day  
Free access/camping!

**12**

CB Farmers Market  
Opens

**15**

Sandcastle Day  
Cannon Beach

**17**

Ecola Watershed  
Council  
4:30PM-Tolovana Hall

## July

**4**

Fireworks on the beach!  
Cannon Beach Parade

**20**

Ecola Watershed  
Council  
4:30PM-AC Fire Hall

### Local Regulatory Bodies:

#### **Ecola Watershed Council**

Contact the council coordinator for locations at (503) 325-0435 or [jjones@columbiaestuary.org](mailto:jjones@columbiaestuary.org)

#### **Clatsop County Planning Commission**

2nd Tuesday each month, 10 A.M.

Judge Guy Boyington Bldg at 857 Commercial St in Astoria

#### **Clatsop County Board of Commissioners**

2nd Wednesday each month, 10 A.M., 4th Wednesday, 6 P.M.

Judge Guy Boyington Bldg at 857 Commercial St in Astoria

#### **Arch Cape Water District Water/Sewer minutes available here:**

<http://www.archcape.com/acsd.shtml>

## Bulletin Board

### Spring Meeting

Join the Arch Cape-Falcon Cove Beach community for our last potluck before the busy summer months! As it is the end of our fiscal year, we will be reviewing our annual accomplishments and electing members of our Board of Directors. We will also have live music from young members of our community, Noah Dooley, Dmitri Swain and perhaps some more friends. Wine, beer and non-alcoholic drinks will be available for a donation. Please bring a potluck dish to share as well as a plate, utensils and napkin for yourself and family members.

See you there!

### Community Club Seeks New Board Members

The May 18th Community Club potluck is the last meeting of the fiscal year. Every year, Board elections are held at this meeting. The Board may have up to seven members. Four positions are open at this election. Terms are two years. Current members Charles Dice, Nadia Gardner, and John Piatt are all running for re-election. Two positions, held by Danna Kittell and Steve Hill are not up for election until 2014. There is one position with no one currently running. The Board is in need of a Secretary and asks that anyone running be prepared to accept that or another officer position (President, Vice President, Treasurer). If you are interested in

running, or would like to nominate someone, please contact the Community Club for more information at [acfcbcc@gmail.com](mailto:acfcbcc@gmail.com) or Nadia at 503-298-9785.

### FOR SALE

Got something for sale? Want to give it away? Have something you need done? Or a job you can do?? Let us know and we will list it right here....



### Arch Cape Falcon Cove Beach Community Club

The Community Club meets four times yearly on the third Saturday of May, September, November and February. Membership in the club is \$16 for a household and includes membership in the Club as well as a subscription to this newsletter.

Not a member? Please Join or renew today. You can mail to ACFCB Community Club, Attn: Treasurer  
79816 E Beach Rd, Arch Cape, OR 97102

### Board Members

**Nadia Gardner — President**  
**John Piatt — Vice President**  
**Charles Dice — Treasurer**  
**Danna Kittell — Member**  
**Linda Lapp-Murray — Member**  
**Steve Hill — Member**

### Questions/Concerns/Comments?

Contact me:  
 Phil Simmons  
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 503.436.1150

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