

Tunnel Echoes

Arch Cape/Falcon Cove Beach Community

A Newsletter

February 2019

Welcome to the Winter Season in Arch Cape

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February 16th 6:00 pm - *Potluck topic: CB Historical Center*

Featuring Elaine Trucke

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Cover Photo by Gilbert Kinch

Quarterly Clean - Up & Potluck

Saturday, February 16, 2019

Everyone is welcome!

10 a.m. Clean-Up: Meet at St Peter the Fisherman Church. Pick up supplies to walk Highway 101 and pick up litter. Come to the 6 p.m. Potluck: Meet at the Arch Cape Fire Hall. Come visit with neighbors, and have a fun and upbeat time. Bring your favorite main dish or dessert along with your plates and silverware.

Elaine Trucke from the Cannon Beach Historical Center will be our Saturday guest speaker.



The Arch Cape Forest

Submitted by Mary Olson & Phil Chick

The Arch Cape Forest project is off and running in 2019!

Our team will build upon momentum established during the past two years, continuing to develop support among federal, state, and public partners for the creation of a community forest and protected watershed in Arch Cape.

In the fall of 2018, the Water District applied for a US Forest Service grant that would cover 75% of the cost of buying the Arch Cape Forest. This generous grant (<https://www.fs.fed.us/managing-land/private-land/forest-legacy>) would enable the District to protect more than 2,000 acres. However, the government shutdown prevented the national review panel from meeting, which means that we may be waiting until the end of the year to hear the outcome. In the meantime, we will be convening a working group to consider alternative sources, such as an Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board grant or a Department of Environmental Quality State Revolving Fund Loan. The Water District is also waiting to hear back on the outcome of a forest inventory, which will give a better estimate of the number and size of trees on the property. With these data, a professional forester will then be able to advise the District on whether forestry activities will generate net revenue.

We will be holding another informational presentation on the Arch Cape Forest project Saturday, March 16 from 11am-12pm at the fire station. The presentation will focus on the status of the project and funding opportunities. This is your chance to ask questions, provide feedback, and learn more about the future advisory committee that will be convened. Please join us!

SCOTCH BROOM REMOVAL DAY!

We would like to form a volunteer group to pull and cut Scotch broom in the watershed. This will reduce the need for herbicide, help to keep roads open, and give the trees less competition. Activities will begin in late March. This is an excellent opportunity to work in the watershed, and to contribute to healthy water quality! If you are interested, please email Mary at archcapeforest@gmail.com. Project partner, North Coast Land Conservancy, is also planning Scotch broom control on the upper forest property that they are looking to acquire.

Please visit archcapeforest.org to see the new logo, a timeline of the project, and planned activities for this year!

Follow us on Facebook for the most up to date information.

ARCH CAPE WATER & SANITARY DISTRICT NEWS

The Arch Cape Water and Sanitary Districts currently have an opening for the Budget Committee. The 3-year term position will be appointed in March. Budget Meetings for 2019 will be held on April 19th, May 3rd, and May 17th. Meeting times are from 4-6 pm. Please contact the office at 503-436-2790 if you would like to take part in the public process of developing the budgets and financial future of the Districts.

The Arch Cape Sanitary District will have a Board Vacancy for Position 4 beginning July 1st, 2019. This is a four-year term. For information on applying, please contact the office at 503-436-2790

The Arch Cape New Year's Polar Plunge



Photo by Gilbert Kinch



Photo by Linda Lapp Murray



Photo by Darr Tindall



Photo by Linda Lapp Murray



Photos by Gilbert Kinch



**Support your local Cannon Beach/
Arch Cape/Falcon Cove CERT Team**

Paula Vetter ([503.706.4123](tel:503.706.4123) or pvtaps@gmail.com).

Clatsop County Commissioner - District 5 - Lianne Thompson



Do Good, Have Fun, Make Money

Do you have a personal operating philosophy? I do. Mine is “Do good, have fun, make money, because we have to pay the bills.” Let me explain a little. Doing good is what motivates me. I'm an elected public official, a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team), and church lady in order to do good in the world. It floats my boat.

Having fun matters because doing good should feel good, provide satisfaction and joy. Working together in teams that do the greatest good for the greatest number is something that warms and nourishes my heart. It also means using compassion whenever possible.

Making money is an essential element, because we also operate in the material world and a capitalist economy. Good thoughts and good feelings matter a lot, but almost always there's a financial component involved in taking actions in the world.

The job of county commissioner involves considering costs and benefits. We take in money all day long every day, in the form of various taxes and fees. We provide services all day long every day, in the form of programs and services. That's our job. That's why government exists, and we elected officials are your representatives to do that.

When Clatsop County Commissioners are sworn into office, we take a vow to obey the laws of the State of Oregon and of Clatsop County. We vow to act legally as your representatives.

We are also bound by Ethics Commission laws to behave ethically as your representatives.

We are well-advised to behave in a fiscally prudent manner, considering efficient and effective use of public monies to provide public services as your representatives.

I am committed to behaving in ways that are legal, ethical, and fiscally prudent to provide public services to you and for you. You are my boss, and you make the money to pay the bills.

I am committed to providing you the opportunity to be seen and heard in the public process. Just last month representatives came to testify to the Board of County Commissioners at our meetings in Astoria. Both Falcon Cove Beach Water District and Elsie Vinemaple held up their needs in the public venue. That's good for them and good for everyone, that they had opportunity to be visible.

What other measures of good government matter? To me, accountability and transparency matter. Accountability means that we consider who pays and who benefits. We consider the most efficient and effective ways to achieve the outcomes and goals we have thoughtfully articulated in an open and welcoming public process.

Nigel Jaquiss said, “Corruption in Oregon doesn't look like envelopes full of hundred-dollar bills being passed. Corruption in Oregon looks like croneyism without accountability.” That makes sense to me. We're all accountable to

someone. Who is our boss? Is it the voters, or is it political operatives who put us into office to deliver our voice and our vote to them, when they have an issue or a cause?

I learned some hard lessons early into my career as a County Commission. I received a telephone call from a lobbyist who said, "Lianne, here's how I want you to vote on this issue." I was told by the Board Chair, "I gave you a contribution. You owe me your vote." Someone I had considered a friend sat at my kitchen table and said, "The environmental community got you elected. You have to dance with the ones that brought you. If you don't vote the way we want you to do on this issue, we won't support you. And there's talk of a recall."

Oh. So that's how it works here, I thought. Here's a deeper value, a more significant voice in my mind and memory: my father's. He said, "Let your conscience be your guide." Better advice than those trying to control and command my voice and vote.

You elected me to serve you, using my moral compass and the best thinking I could bring to every issue. I listen to all sides of every issue, to the best of my ability. Then I use my best judgment, which is what I think you elected me to do, even if we don't agree completely every time on every issue.

Here's a significant challenge: District 5 is sharply and deeply divided on a variety of issues. There are people who think it's morally wrong to cut a single tree and that people who cut trees are evil. There are people who have for generations made their living cutting trees to provide support for their families and their communities.

How do we wage peace together rather than making war on one another when we have widely divergent points of view?

We need good listening, committing to welcoming divergent points of view in a respectful way. We need to do it in public, in a way that is transparent and open to public view.

What I'm seeing in the newly elected Chair and the newly constituted board makes me wonder about our collective commitment to transparency and accountability. Things are still developing, but I'm preparing to raise more concerns and raise them more openly if we continue down a path that lessens transparency and accountability.

One more thing about accountability. It's best used as a tool, not as a weapon. It's important to allow for learning curves, growing by doing and making mistakes. Whenever possible, I look for the "no harm, no foul" evaluation if a mistake is recognized and owned and helps us learn and grow.

Most of all, we have to be willing to share our truths, not silence or exclude those who raise questions or concerns. I've seen too much of that. "Denial ain't just a river in Egypt," as the saying goes, and it doesn't help us address what needs to be seen, heard, and resolved.

And I'm still working on housing, ecologically sustainable economic development, and resilience. Those are the bigger picture, longer-term solutions we need, going forward together.

WALKIE-TALKIE RADIOS – IT’S STILL EASY TO BE CONFUSED

Submitted by Helen R. Chauncey

Many people in the community have walkie-talkie style two-way radios, the kind that are pre-programmed and do not require a license from the FCC. From the mid-1990s until May 2017, these were commonly classified as FRS (Family Radio Service) radios.

These radios are not consistently effective but they are painlessly easy to use. (See note at end for recommendations.) Before May 2017, they could also be perplexing and, unfortunately, they still are. What confused matters was that many manufacturers sold combo radios that offered FRS channels and additional channels designated for use by the FCC’s General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS). A critical difference between FRS and GMRS is power level. That can be significant given the topography in the Arch Cape/Falcon Cove area.

Before 2017, FRS transmissions were limited to a half watt. GMRS transmissions, on hand-held radios, were limited to 2 watts. The combo radios were not clearly labeled and it was easy to confuse which power levels were allowed on which channels.

In May 2017, the FCC attempted to clean this up. If you purchased your radio set in 2017 or before (before manufacturers had time to catch up with the new regulations), you probably have a low watt FRS or FRS/GMRS radio. If you make a new purchase, it will be either an FRS or a GMRS radio set. You can have one or the other, but not both. With the new rules in effect, FRS radios, including the older-style combos – are now allowed to transmit at 2 watts (channels 8-14 are an exception - see below). Going forward, the combo radios are to be considered FRS only.

Manufacturers are producing new GMRS radios. GMRS radios share 22 channels with FRS radios. GMRS radios are allowed to transmit on higher power, with the exception of channels 8-14. (See below.) There is one other difference – use of GMRS requires a license from the FCC. There is no exam and the license is good for 10 years. The application is online. One GMRS license is good for an extended family – cousins, aunts, in-laws, everyone. The issue has been cost: the license was \$85.00. The new regulations do not change that. A license is still required for transmission on GMRS radios. At \$85.00 for an extended family, that is worth the price of admission.

The GMRS radios can still be confusing. There are 22 channels on the FRS radios and the same 22 on the GMRS radios. For legacy reasons, channels 8 through 14 on BOTH types of radio allow transmission at one half watt only. For FRS radios, all other transmissions may be up to 2 watts. For GMRS radios, on channels 1-7 transmissions are allowed at 5 watts. For larger GMRS radio units channels 15-22 may transmit at 50 watts. That’s a significant difference. FRS and GMRS radios use ultra-high frequency (UHF) radio waves. These are fairly tight frequencies – they work well at close range but do not do well over long distance when the topography isn’t flat as a pancake.

The obvious solution to this problem is to study for and pass the FCC’s license test for the amateur/ham radio service. There is an exam fee, which is typically \$15.00. Renewal every 10 years is free. There is ham radio gear in the Cannon Beach and Arch Cape fire stations and a number of Arch Cape and Falcon Cove residents have ham licenses. These radios can communicate throughout the county, across the country, and to the space station and beyond. (Seriously. You can bounce radio transmissions off the moon.) Operators can use them to send text emails and photo images. All you need to do is to pass the license exam.

The FRS and GMRS radios are cheaper. If that is the route you choose to go, for the FRS service we recommend that you purchase either Midland or Motorola radios. These are fully interoperable. That is: a given channel number (such

as 2 or 7) is the same on either manufacturer's sets. Both Midland and Motorola now have excellent 5 watt GMRS radios on the market. BTech, which shares production with the cheap and popular Baofeng ham radios, also makes an excellent 5 watt GMRS radio. Be sure to purchase a radio that allows back up use with AA or AAA batteries. Units that use AA are more efficient in their battery use than those using the smaller AAA.

A few words of caution: The BTech GMRS radio is fully compliant with FCC regulations. The Baofeng radios (sometimes called Pufeng) are NOT legal for either FRS or GMRS transmissions.

Note also that your radio will come with a charging station. Do NOT leave the radio on the charging station. Overtime, the radio will warm up – literally. The level of heat involved will not burn you but it will kill the battery pack.

In a major disaster, you will want to be able to communicate. Landlines, cell phones, and non-satellite based Internet may not be working. Having a radio with which you can talk to other people in the community is a good idea.

Cannon Beach area ham radio colleagues: On February 23, there will be a "call-out" exercise in our area - participants will be notified as they might be in a real emergency and will assemble and assume their emergency response rolls. Clatsop County Emergency Management staff will be at the February 9 meeting and can brief us on this upcoming drill.



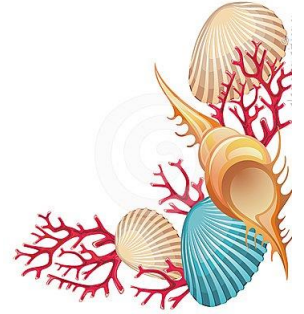
Arch Cape in the Snow





**ARCH CAPE
FALCON COVE BEACH
COMMUNITY CLUB**

79729 Highway 101, Arch Cape, OR 97102



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 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, 79729 Hwy 101, Arch Cape, OR 97102

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Contact: acfbcc@gmail.com