

Tunnel Echoes

Arch Cape/Falcon Cove Beach Community

A Newsletter

February 2018

Welcome to Winter in Arch Cape

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February 17th 6:00 pm - *Potluck topic: Music by Bill Eyerman*

Poem by Avery Piatt

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January Winter Storm

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Quarterly Clean - Up & Potluck

Saturday, February 17, 2018

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 time listening to music by Bill Gaylord. This will be a fun and upbeat time. Bring your favorite main dish or dessert along with your plates and silverware.

Join us!

Waves

The waves they bellow and let out a roar.

Through the mist they spray mighty.

The waves they bellow and let out a roar.

The waves they look awful fighty.

They fight for the title of "Biggest Wave"

For a minute only, they live.

They fight for the title of "Biggest Wave"

Then to the ocean they give.

Our 9-year-old granddaughter, Avery, wrote this poem during her visit with family to the beach for Thanksgiving.

John & Helen Piatt



New Year's Day Polar Plunge





Photo by Diane Matson

January Winter Storm



Photo by Heather Newman



Photos by Nadia Gardner



Arch Cape No Longer Getting Development Notices

When the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners voted 4-1 (Commissioner Kathleen Sullivan dissenting) to disband the Arch Cape Design Review Committee, the ramifications went far beyond what local citizens anticipated or what was represented at public meetings. The most alarming fall-out from this vote is the elimination of the Notice of Proposed Development for new single-family homes, additions and other residential development classified as Type I.

Previously such Notices were required to be sent to owners of property within 250 feet of the proposed development site as well as the Community Club, and no permits could be issued until the time period for public comment had closed.

Here's how it's working since new Ordinance 17-02 went into effect on June 23, 2017. A Type I development application is reviewed by County Planning, and a permit is either issued or denied. No notices are being sent to neighbors, the Community Club, or anyone. Neither applications nor permits are being posted on the County website. There is no requirement that development information be posted on the property itself. And there is no process at all for the County to receive or consider community input on most residential development.

Did the County, in passing the new ordinance, intend to deprive Arch Cape property owners of notice of new residential development, and to prevent them from being heard? These changes can be found in the fine print of Ordinance 17-02 so yes, this was part of the master plan in eliminating local design review. And yet at the public meeting on May 24, 2017, where Ordinance 17-02 was adopted, Commissioner Lianne Thompson specifically asked whether the ordinance “did preserve and protect citizen participation and the protections of neighborhood livability” (*italics signify direct quotes from transcript*). County Counsel Chris Crean assured her and the Board that it did; he represented that Ordinance 17-02 was “designed to increase public awareness of what is going on in your neighborhood and provide additional opportunities for people to be engaged in the process.” He also stated:

“There is nothing that prohibits the same people who meet now from continuing to meet and review every land use application in their area and provide comments to the Planning Director and the county and engage the county processes at every level doing exactly the same things they would be doing otherwise.”

“If they want to meet to discuss a proposed development in the Arch Cape area they would have to go on the county website and download the documents.”

Those words seemed to satisfy Commissioner Thompson, who voted for the Ordinance, and gave community members in the audience some comfort that local voices would not be completely lost under the new regime. But as it turns out, with regard to any development designated Type I including new single-family homes, local voices have been silenced completely in providing input on the future of the Arch Cape community. The Community Club has been actively working with community members to find a solution for this important problem. The Community Club wrote to the Commissioners asking that the former Notice and Comment provisions be restored, and Community Club President Tara Erben joined several Arch Cape property owners at a meeting with County Manager Cameron Moore where this issue was the main topic of discussion. So far, the County's position is that they will not do voluntarily what they are not required to do by law.

But perhaps the door is not yet fully closed. The Oregon Coast Alliance (ORCA), a non-profit that works with coastal residents to provide education and advocacy on land use development, and Arch Cape citizens have implemented a community-based alternative notice system, since the County refuses to provide notice.

Each week an ORCA representative contacts County Planning to request copies of new Southwest Coastal region development applications. When an application is provided, for which ORCA must pay, it is then posted to a website (www.acfcb.org) for community review. A Facebook page also has been created (search FB for “Preserve Arch Cape”) to promote information sharing and provide alerts when new applications have been posted. While it is appreciated that ORCA is standing with the people of Arch Cape on this issue, it must be remembered that non-profits have limited resources, and their assistance is not a substitute for appropriate government action. Donations to this 501(c)(3) organization would be appreciated.

It also would be most helpful if Arch Cape property owners would express their dissatisfaction with this dramatic change in local land use procedure by writing to the Board of Commissioners. Concrete steps that the County could take to solve the problem include: (1) amending Ordinance 17-02 to make new residential development a Type II proceeding with its notice requirements; (2) adding a notice provision to Ordinance 17-02 for Type I residential development; and (3) posting Type I applications and all associated paperwork on the County’s own website.

Submitted by Linda Eyerman

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What’s Happening with the Historical Marker Replacement

By John Piatt

About this time last year, the Community Club requested a grant from Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) tourism promotion funds from Clatsop County for replacement of the historical marker at the wayside in Arch Cape which is deteriorating. The current style of historical markers cost \$7300. The grant was approved by the county and funds forwarded to Annie Von Domitz at Oregon Travel Experience, who oversees the historical marker program.

The new style of historical markers have photos, graphics, and sidebars. Our new marker is being updated to include information on all three carronades found in Arch Cape and where they can be seen. There will also be a sidebar on how our community, originally known as Cannon beach become Arch Cape, and how the community known as Ecola became Cannon Beach.

The Cannon Beach History Center and Museum where the first carronade found in 1898 is located, and the Columbia River Maritime Museum where the two carronades found in 2008 are located, supported this project.

The Historical Marker Committee will be meeting in February to review the near final text and layout of the marker. It is hoped that the new marker will be installed this year.

Arch Cape Water and Sanitary Districts News

By Phil Chick

Attention: Arch Cape Homeowners with Irrigation Systems

Arch Cape Water District is a water conservation district, committed to encouraging the sustainable use of the district's water resources. Improperly operating irrigation systems are major contributors of wasted water each year. All homes with irrigation systems *within either the Arch Cape Water District or Arch Cape Sanitary District* are required to file an annual irrigation system report. This report is separate from the backflow test report that you may have had completed recently, and is due by May 1st each year. If this report is not submitted to the District by May 1st, customers shall have no claim for relief from billing invoice charges (basic, excess, or otherwise) in the event of an irrigation system malfunction. This particular report requires an annual inspection of the system as well as updated contact information. The system inspection and report may be completed by a homeowner, and there is no requirement to hire a contractor.

Irrigation system reports are available at:

http://www.archcape.com/ACutility/POLICY_17-01_WD_Irrigation_Report-&-Leak.pdf

If you have any questions after reading the irrigation system report form, please feel free to contact

Phil Chick at 503-436-2790.



Boat debris on beach from Japan submitted by John Piatt

Clatsop County Commissioner - District 5 - Lianne Thompson

Compassion, Corruption, and Community

Nigel Jaquiss is a Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter who writes for Willamette Week, a Portland newspaper. He came to Astoria to speak at the Columbia Forum on March 7, 2017 about the need for integrity, good judgment, and a rational thought process in the conduct of public affairs.

He also said something that's been bouncing around in my brain ever since. "Corruption in Oregon doesn't look like envelopes full of hundred-dollar bills being passed. Corruption in Oregon looks like cronyism without accountability." Cronyism without accountability. What does that mean? And why does it matter to you?

It matters to you because it's your money, your tax dollars that are being spent.

It might help to consider what accountability looks and feels like.

It looks like having a plan. It looks like having a vision and a mission and goals. If the goals are SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, reality-based, and time-specific), so much the better.



One way to look at cronyism is that it means using power or authority to treat our friends differently, whether giving them a job or looking at the methods and results of how they do a job.

Accountability should be used as a tool, not a weapon, I think. It involves communication, based on respect and affection. And it empowers us, based on appropriate rules, roles, and responsibilities.

But it's embarrassing to be measured and fail. It's unpleasant and uncomfortable to talk about not meeting a goal, especially one that matters. No wonder I've been as popular as a skunk at a picnic for asking my fellow County Commissioners and the County Manager to develop and use accountability systems for our work.

On the other hand, if we approach the questions with some compassion for ourselves, some willingness to fail and recover, some humor and some grace. . . what might we be able to accomplish?

We might address our crying needs: housing, ecologically sustainable economic development, and resilience. Even if you and I are OK in today's economy, many others are not, and they're part of our community. We need to care about our people and our planet.

We need as many people as possible to have stable and adequate income. Manufacturing jobs can provide stable and adequate income in a way that other sectors often do not. Manufacturing also provides a more stable tax base for the rest of the services a healthy community needs, like schools, health care, public health, public safety, roads, and so on.

Mother Nature has blessed us with a natural resource base, but we are not adding as much value to the wood products as we might be able to do by developing Cross Laminated Timber and other mass timber technology, as is already done in Europe and Asia. Automation can be our friend.

Or, instead of building a dream of a better use for our people and our planet, we can attack those who ask for accountability as a way of moving us forward together. If you want a world that works for everyone, cronyism has no place. Mutually respectful and compassionate accountability does.



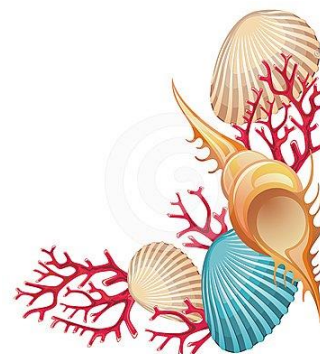
Support your local Cannon Beach/Arch Cape/Falcon Cove CERT Team

Paula Vetter (503.706.4123 or pvtaps@gmail.com).



**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

The Tunnel Echoes is published 4 times per year: February, May, September, November.

Board Members

Tara Erben — President
Open — Vice President
Charles Dice — Treasurer
Diane Matson — Secretary

Court Carrier — Member
Patty Kinch — Member
Helen Chauncey — Member
Ralph Wyatt — Member

Questions/Concerns/Comments?

Contact: acfcbcc@gmail.com