

Tunnel Echoes



Arch Cape/Falcon Cove Beach Community

A Newsletter November 2012

Welcome to Fall in Arch Cape

Goodbye Summer...

Was it not an amazing summer?

OK, as I write this I'm actually out of the country so not sure what is going on in late October...but the internet tells me it has been mostly rain since I left 2 weeks ago and I suspect it may be with us for some time. Still...it was an amazing summer.

I wanted to spend a few minutes discussing community. Of course, community is what you make of it. Got a neighbor you do not like...perhaps the feeling is mutual. Volunteer to help pick up trash or support community services...people get to know you. We all get out of the community what we put in, seldom more or less.

Myself, lately, I seem to be a bit overextended, based on my community commitments. So much so I was worried for this (the November issue) newsletter. Only



Photo: Jack Birkby

so many hours in a day. I put out the call to the "regulars" in the community and they came through. This issue is packed full of great information. Thank you.

But that got me thinking...why is it that there are always the "go to" folks in a community...the folks who are continually ready and able to volunteer and help. I know that there are lots of folks in this community who would like to be involved...

So here is your chance. Next issue, 1 February. Let me hear

from you...I need material for that issue.

John wrote a great article on bicycle safety. On our vacation I was amazed to see how progressive many countries are with their bicycle plan. I worked the accident he described in Arch Cape. I hope to never have to work another one so serious.

Reminder to vote this week. Many of you may recall we had the candidates for Sheriff participate in a discussion group at our February potluck. Well, its now down to two. Your vote will count.

Questions, comments, critiques? Have something you want to say, or something that needs to be said? Let us (let me) know.

philip.simmons@gmail.com

Phil

Industrial Strength Raccoons

By Steve Hill

Many communities have a variety of cute and sometimes mischievous raccoons in their midst. Here in Arch Cape however we have the industrial strength version that will stare down and advance on anyone impeding their progress. They can be quite impressive. Anyone who has spent anytime here in Arch Cape can testify to their single resolve in obtaining access to poorly secured trash containers.

Judy Scott of Oregon State University reflects that raccoons are wonderful animals to watch, but can be a real pain in the garden. They dig in vegetable beds, eat fruit off trees and vines, knock down corn stalks and break into bird feeders.

Nocturnal by nature, raccoons often search for food late in the evening and early morning. They are omnivores and eat fruit, vegetables, eggs, birds, insects, carrion, fish and other aquatic animals, not to mention pet food and garbage.

Adult male raccoons range over a wide area. Traveling territories can be three to twenty square miles. Females cover much smaller areas, usually about one to six square miles.

Urban and suburban residential areas are favorites because of abundant food, water and



shelter. Raccoons den in hollow trees, buildings, drain pipes, under decks and in brush piles and abandoned burrows. They are often more plentiful than people think. Because they feed at night, evidence of their passing is seen far more often than the animals themselves.

What can a person do to discourage these visitors? Dana Sanchez, a wildlife specialist with the Oregon State University Extension Service, suggests the following:

- Bring pet food and water bowls inside at night;
- Use tight-fitting trash can lids or wire the loose ones shut;
- Harvest your garden produce as soon as it is ready and pick up wind-fall fruit promptly;
- Trim tree branches so they don't touch house and shed roofs;
- Block foundation vents;

Install wooden lattice to keep raccoons from living under your deck. Be careful not to trap any that might already be in residence.

If an animal is present under your deck, close up all but a one-foot diameter opening, return at night, after the

animal has left, and close completely. If a female has kits, you may need to wait until they have left their den which is 3 – 7 weeks after birth to close the area safely. If you trap raccoons you must have a plan for dealing with the animal once captured. Raccoons are cute but not cuddly. For those who would like help removing raccoons, Ms. Sanchez recommends that they hire a wildlife control operator licensed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife listed on their website.

Bicycle Safety on Highway 101

By John Piatt



collided with the rear of a loaded log trailer as it was traveling past and was killed.

-10/3/2011 (Milepost 317, 11 miles north of Gold Beach). At about 1:00 pm, a car traveling southbound struck two bicyclists from behind. The two bicyclists, who were wearing helmets, were thrown from their bikes and one was critically injured.

-Ride with the flow of traffic using a bike lane, if there is one.
-Wear a helmet while riding (mandatory if 16 years old or younger).
-Use hand signals prior to turning or stopping to let drivers know your intentions.

Most Arch Cape residents I talk with say they wouldn't ride a bicycle on Highway 101. That doesn't mean we can't improve bicycle safety. As drivers, we have the responsibility to share the road with bicycles and look out for their safety by driving defensively.

Common sense really is the key. Pay attention. The recent Arch Cape accident was likely due to a lapse of attention.

Arch Cape contains a short segment of the 370-mile Oregon Coast Bike Route. However, we were recently reminded of the hazardous nature of biking this "shoulder bikeway," where shoulders in some places are nearly non-existent, and bicyclists share the road with cars and trucks.

On July 7th, a sunny Saturday morning, a cyclist was critically injured just south of the Catholic Church when a northbound minivan drifted onto the shoulder of Highway 101 and struck a bicyclist from behind causing massive critical injuries to the young woman.

Here are more some recent bicycle accidents on Highway 101:

-8/4/2011 (Milepost 54, near Garibaldi). At 11:54 am, a bicyclist wearing a bicycle helmet swerved into the southbound lane and

-7/25/2012 (Milepost 285 south of Bandon) At about 11:25 am, an SUV driven southbound struck a bicyclist along the southbound shoulder. The bicyclist, not wearing a helmet, suffered serious injuries.

-8/4/2012 (Milepost 29, in Cannon Beach) At 6:21 pm, a car struck a bicyclist. The bicyclist was not wearing a helmet and was critically injured.

-8/18/2012 (Near Cannon Beach) A bicyclist not wearing a helmet was spooked by an elk, fell, and suffered serious head trauma.

As a bicyclist in Oregon, you have the same rights and responsibilities as drivers of automobiles and need to consistently follow them.

-Have a bright front light and a rear reflector if riding after dark.

Pay attention when driving and passing. For example, look for the bicyclist warning light at the tunnel entrance to see if bicyclists are present. Because passing is not allowed in the tunnel, do not attempt to pass a bicycle in the tunnel.

Have plenty of space between you and bicyclists before turning to avoid cutting them off and forcing them into a ditch or striking your vehicle.

You may think of Highway 101 only as the means to get to places north and south of Arch Cape. But some 10,000 bicyclists come to enjoy the views of the coast each year taking in part or all of the Oregon Coast Bicycle Route. Take the time to keep them safe.

In Case of Emergency: You Can't Get by Without Water

By Helen Chauncey
Review/Input by Tom Merrell

A major emergency in our community could damage water service lines. If there's a failure of the Arch Cape water distribution system, folks should have enough water stored at home for up to 72 hours. You need 1 gallon minimum per person per day. Don't forget pets.

Arch Cape Water District will make repairs to its treatment systems and provide a collection point for folks to pick up water, likely at the water treatment plant at the end of Shark Creek lane. This article will focus on ways to ensure you have enough water in an emergency.

COMMERCIALLY BOTTLED WATER

If you are using commercially bottled water it is good to note that the FDA does not consider properly bottled water to expire.

The manufacturers date the jugs; you can either swap out the water according to the dates or assume that you may need to filter or aerate the water to improve its taste if it has been stored a long time. Do not store plastic jugs outside – they freeze and crack.

WATER PURIFICATION

If you are pulling water from outside your home, you need to purify the water to remove viruses, bacteria, and other harmful micro-

organisms. Both Arch Cape and Asbury creeks may be contaminated by raw sewage unless you pull from above the treatment plant and developed areas. Even pristine mountain stream water should be purified.

Boiling water

If there is a ready supply of fuel, you can render water safe to drink by bringing it to a rolling boil and boiling it for 1-3 minutes.

If fuel is not widely available, there are 3 main types of water purification to consider: chemical purification, micro-filtration, and ultra-violet light.

Rough filter first, if necessary. If your water has particulates (mud, stones, bits of stuff), run it through a coffee filter, a layer of clean cloth such as a handkerchief or a clean, preferably white sock. Any purification method works best when the water is fairly clear.

1) Chemical purification; 2 ways

Bleach

If sheltering in place, you will need only household, a measuring spoon and a gallon jug. Use 1/8 – 1/4 teaspoon of bleach per gallon of water. Mix well. Let stand a half hour. If there is no faint chlorine smell, repeat the process. Avoid using bleach with perfumes, stabilizers, or other additives.

Tablets

If you need to evacuate, carrying a bottle of bleach is not handy. Instead carry purification tablets.

These are available online, and from stores selling camping and outdoor equipment. Make the effort to get some of these; put them in your go-kit, together with an empty water container. Note that the tablets do have expiration dates.

Other chemicals, such as iodine, can also be used to purify water. They are generally not as effective as chlorine.

2) Micro-filtration

Small micro-filters are also widely available at camping and outdoor stores. They are easy to store in your grab-and-go kits. The upfront cost is higher than chlorine tablets, but the treated water has no chlorine after-taste. The filters also require no batteries. They are long-lasting and can be cleaned.

3) Ultra Violet Light

UV light is an effective medium for purifying of water. Currently, the most common device available for portable UV water purification is the Steri-pen. These hand-held, light-weight devices may be inserted into any available water container.

Steri-pens are highly effective, versatile, and long-lasting. They are easy to stow in go-kits. They are also on the expensive side up-front, and require you to keep a back-up supply of batteries.

Wherever you are, be on the safe side. Have reserve water in your residence and purification supplies in your go-kit.

Dog Walk News

By Bob Tarr

Well, we finally had the summer that we missed the last two years. The sand came back, probably the most sand I've seen in the 28 years I've been here, and there was sun, sun, sun. You could cross Arch Cape Creek on rocks and sandbars down near the mouth, and there were usually two or more bridges/dams made out of driftwood and strategically placed rocks where you could cross upstream.

Once across the creek, you could walk through the Arch on the sand, and on down to the end of Falcon Cove.

Further north, Asbury Creek was covered all the way across by a berm of rocks across which you could walk unaware that there was even a creek under the rocks. Asbury came trickling out from under the rocks in two little streams, each of which you could step across.

The waterfall at Hug Point was just a trickle; you had to get pretty close just to see it. What a summer. I don't think we had any rain from sometime in August until just about two weeks ago.

And then we had over 7 inches of rain in 5 days. Summer was over. The ground soaked up most of the rain for the first 2 or 3 days, then the runoff came down the creeks.



Good bye berm across Asbury, hello channel cut 2 or 3 feet deep with deep, swift flowing water. Good bye dog walks in shirtsleeves, hello dog walks in GoreTex parka, pants and boots.

Speaking of rain, Arch Cape's own Tim Crawford is scheduled to fly to Boston tomorrow morning (Wednesday, the 21st), to give a talk at an astronomy conference there. As Tim said to me during yesterday's dog walk, even if that storm back East has abated enough for his flight to make it, what would be the point if there's no electricity? Tim has been watching the Weather Channel quite a bit these last few days.

Speaking of accomplishments of Arch Cape residents, Daryl Eigen, formerly of At Oceans Edge B&B on Pacific, will be the Cannon Beach Library's 2nd Saturday Author of the Month in January, 2013. Daryl joined the Marines out of high school, and, after I think 10 years of working on it, finally finished his book about his Vietnam experiences and got it published. A Hellish Place of Angels; Con Thien: One Man's Journey is available at Amazon.com or on Daryl's

website,
www.ahellishplaceofangels.com

Daryl's dog, Tasha, was my dog Emma's best friend and playmate for the first year and a half of her life. Tasha, a Black Russian Terrier, and Emma and Daryl and I would walk almost every afternoon from 3:00 to 4:00, usually from Asbury to Arch Cape Creek and back. Daryl's B&B duties called for him to "pour at four", i.e., be the sommalier (sp?), pour the wine, and mingle with the guests, so we had to watch the time.

After his enlistment in the Marines was up, Daryl decided to go to college on the G.I. Bill. He found that he enjoyed college, and earned 2 Bachelors degrees, 3 Masters degrees, and a PhD in electrical engineering. He left Bell Labs to become the VP in charge of worldwide Sales and Distribution for Siemens AG, was involved in a few startups after that, and is now retired. Don't forget: 2:00 PM, Saturday, January 12, 2013 at the Cannon Beach Library. Be there. It will be worth it.

While walking with Emma on the beach one day, I got to talking to two Arch Cape weekend visitors. One of them said "Do you know Jack?", and I said "Jack Birkby? Sure. He lives there", pointing to the house he leases from Gwen Carney. The other guy said, "See? I told you so. Everybody knows Jack."

(cont...)

Cont: Dog walk News

Turns out that these guys had rented a place for the weekend, and were going to make Eggs Benedict for breakfast the next morning, but discovered that they'd forgotten to bring butter for the Hollandaise sauce. They remembered passing a little store on there way in, so went on up to the former Arch Cape Deli to get some (not realizing that it was now Jack's Thrift Shop).

Jack had just gotten there to open up, and these fellows asked Jack if

he had any butter. Jack said "How much do you need?", and they replied "Just a quarter pound, one cube." Jack said "Sure, no problem. Just go up to the corner, take a left, then take the next left and go to the end of the road. The big gray house across the path in front of you is mine. Just go ring the doorbell, and tell the man who answers that Jack sent you down for a cube of butter. The guy said that he didn't think he'd feel comfortable doing this, so Jack tossed him the keys to the store, and said, "O.K., you mind the

store and your friend and I will go get the butter. " And they did.

The next day, while walking by Jack's, I saw the same two guys. They'd been to town and bought a pound of butter which they were delivering to Jack with their thanks.

Sounds like Arch Cape and Jack Birkby, doesn't it?

And now you can all wait for the next issue of the Tunnel Echoes to see if Tim made it to Boston and gave his presentation. To be continued ...

Evolving Trash Along Highway 101

By Steve Hill

Our club is now in it's fifteenth (15) year of supporting a cleaner community through organized clean up efforts both along the beach and our section of Highway 101.

I've been struck by the disregard individuals can display by thoughtlessly disposing of their unwanted items here in Arch Cape. I can understand and even sympathize with an errant piece of a retread tire unknowingly flung loose as a truck travels on its way

but soft drink and beer cans, drink cups, empty lighters and food wrappers are flung here with 'malice aforethought!'. And what of the more unusual items encountered? I came across a left hand glove in the north cut, it's matching right hand glove near the church and a similarly patterned scarf at the north tunnel entrance. There must be a story in there somewhere. Our dedicated pick up crews have come across Coleman coolers, odd drill bits, restaurant menus, old maps dating to the early 1930's, a ball of twine, and a guide book to Australia.

There are however signs of hope. The mass of cigarette butts, empty containers, burnt matches and exhausted lighters seen in year 2000 has become but a trickle by comparison.

Are we a reflection of what we throw away?

Check it out yourself by joining us in our next highway cleanup at 10:00am at the church parking lot on Saturday, November 17th.

See you there!

County names Lianne Thompson as new CERT Coordinator



Lianne Thompson is working to get local residents more prepared for whatever event may strike as Clatsop County's new CERT coordinator.

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) are volunteer, citizen-based groups trained and organized to provide assistance during a variety of events, including storms, fires, floods, evacuations and missing-person searches.

She will be sponsored by our Fire Department.

CERT training provides new volunteers with basic skills in fire

safety, basic disaster medical care, team organization and light search-and-rescue. CERT teams conduct ongoing training for members, including disaster simulations.

Lianne is also organizing the formation of a new team for south Clatsop County. She is working with organizers in northern Tillamook County communities, many of which have well-organized and active emergency preparedness programs, to ensure good coordination and cooperation across the county line.

Fire Station Update

By Charles Dice

Work on the new Arch Cape Fire Station is progressing nicely. The station is framed, roofed, has exterior siding installed as well as doors and windows, plumbing and electrical rough-in.

By the time you read this it will be insulated and sheet rocking of the interior will be well underway or perhaps finished.

It is still expected that the new station will be finished by the end

of the year, so we hope to have our February Community Club meeting at the new station.

The street address of the new station is: 79729 Highway 101, Arch Cape, Oregon. The new station will not have a mail box or P.O. Box as all mail for the Fire Department should be addressed to the main Cannon Beach Station (P.O. Box 24, Cannon Beach 97110).

If you have any questions or comments, please contact

Charles A. Dice at 503-436-0146 or email = cadice@hotmail.com.

Arch Cape/Cove Beach Local Wetland Inventory (LWI) Update

By Charles Dice

The Clatsop County Planning Commission (PC) held a public workshop on 14 August 2012 in Astoria to review various options regarding the Arch Cape/Cove Beach LWI. The County Planning Department reviewed various options that they had presented to the Planning Commission at their regular meeting on 8 May 2012 including:

- Adopt the LWI into Goal 5 and apply the existing Lake and Wetland Zone (LW) to the eleven significant wetlands identified in the Dec 2008 Arch Cape/Cove Beach LWI Assessment done by Pacific Habitat Services.
- Adopt the LWI into Goal 5 and create a new Local Wetland Overlay to provide some protection for the identified areas.
- Adopt the LWI into Goal 5 and process a text amendment to the AC-RCR and CR zones to add additional protection measures.
- Do nothing.

Various groups and individuals testified at the 14 August Workshop including representatives from DSL, ECWC (Ecola Creek Watershed Council), FCBWD (Falcon Cove Beach Water District), the ACFCBCC, as well as a few individual property owners and real estate agents.

The position of ECWC, FCBWD and the ACFCBCC was for the

Planning Commission to recommend Option 1 for adoption by the County Commissioners. The position of two of the individual property owners was to not adopt any new rules or restrictions.

Since this was a workshop meeting, the PC took no action, but they did agree to hold an additional meeting in Arch Cape so that they could get more community input. This second workshop was held at the Arch Cape Fire Station on 19 October.

By this second Workshop, the PC seemed to have recognized the strong support from the community to protect these valuable Lake and Wetland resources and the focus of discussion was more around Option 1 and 2 above. Once again, there was strong testimony and advocacy from the groups to have at least the most significant and ecologically sensitive Lake and Wetland areas put into the established LW zone as has been done in the past for many similar areas in the Northern part of the County.

Several individual property owners also supported this position including at least one whose property contains identified LWI areas and who would be affected by such a zoning change. One other property owner expressed a desire for no new zoning or restrictions with a suggestion that the County purchase any identified lake and wetland areas from the affected property owners.

Since this was a public workshop to take public input, the PC made no decisions, however, they did

agree to try to reach a consensus on their recommendation to the Board of Commissioners at their next regular meeting on 13 November in Astoria.

I would urge each of you to attend this 13 November meeting and, prior to the meeting, to submit written comments to the PC via email or letter. The agenda for the 19 October meeting in Arch Cape as well as supporting documentation can be found on-line at : <http://www.co.clatsop.or.us/minutes.asp?deptid=12>

Your local community organizations and residents have spent a great deal of time, energy, and money over the past 5 years to reach this point in our effort to protect and preserve these very valuable local wetlands that play such an important part in preserving the natural beauty and ecology that make this area such a beautiful and interesting place to live.

We need our local County Government to help us protect these resources by utilizing the same laws, rules and ordinances that have been used extensively and successfully in the Northern part of the County for many years. We will need your help to convince them to do the right thing for OUR Community.

Please feel free to contact Charles Dice at 503-436-0146 (email=cadice@hotmail.com) if you have any questions or need any additional information.

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

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

November

1

Robin Hartman, Oregon Shores Conservation
"Marine Reserves"
7PM-CB Llibrary

14

Design Review
6PM-At the Fire Hall

17

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

December

6

Laura Todd, US Fish and Wildlife Service
"Western Snowy Plover Recovery"
7PM-CB Llibrary

January

3

Tom Wilson, National Parks Ranger
"Lewis & Clark's Winter on the Oregon Coast"
7PM-CB Llibrary

Local Regulatory Bodies:

Ecola Watershed Council (Arch Cape & Cannon Beach)

Contact the coordinator for locations at (503)325-0435 ext. 12 or 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>

FCBWD Board Meetings are 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:30 A.M.

2nd Saturday at 9:30am (location available from C. Dice at 503-436-0146).

Bulletin Board

Fall Meeting

Ever wonder what happened to the two cannons that were found on the beach at Arch Cape in February 2008? Come to the ACFCBCC potluck November 17 at 6:00 pm, where Dennis Griffin, the Oregon State Archeologist, will present the current status of the cannons and what has been learned to date from their restoration. He will also discuss the process of determining a home for these cannons.

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....

Animals In Distress

If you come across injured wildlife on the road, at home, or on the beach remember to call the Wildlife Center of the North Coast at (503) 338-0331.

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

The Tunnel Echoes is published 5 times per year. February, May, July, September, November

Board Members

Nadia Gardner — President
John Piatt — Vice President
Charles Dice — Treasurer
Lianne Thompson — Secretary
Linda Lapp-Murray — Member
Steve Hill — Member

Questions/Concerns/Comments???

Contact me:
 Phil Simmons
philip.simmons@gmail.com
 436-1150