

### FISHY STORIES

by Mary Jo Leach

The tulips are in bloom at the Fish Mill Lodges, and summer is just around the corner. It's time to enjoy all our outdoor pastimes, and for many, that's putting a hook on a line, and trying your luck at landing dinner.

Judy and Cris Bedsole spent some time sharing their experiences at Fish Mill Lodges, a spectacularly scenic property on Siltcoos Lake, which originally was the site of a logging company lodge until the crash of 1929.



It was then re-incarnated as the Roosevelt Club, an enclave for the wealthy, who flew in by seaplane before the completion of Highway 101. After a fire, the lodge was rebuilt into the Fish Mill Lodges and Resort that we see today.

Over the years, they and their guests have caught countless fish, including sturgeon and flounder that wandered in from the Pacific.

Lots of memories, lots of great times; lots of good eating! It all started with the first youngster that tossed a line in a lake, and got hooked himself!

So come on kids and adults too, it's time to drop those lines in the water and get started on hooking yourselves some new memories!!!

☛ Visit [www.fishmill.com](http://www.fishmill.com) for more information. ☛



### BEING PREPARED

by Maurice Sanders, Florence Chief of Police

Dunes City has requested that West Lane Emergency Operations Group (WLEOG) make an informational presentation to the City Council. The purpose of the presentation scheduled for July 21 at 6:00 pm, is to fully describe the functions of the organization, the history behind it, a debrief on the events of the March 2011 Tsunami Warning event, where the organization is heading, the projects that are underway, and what the WLEOG sees in the future.

Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue Chief John Buchanan, Western Lane Ambulance District Director Henry Hanf, and Florence Police Chief Maurice Sanders will make that presentation along with Dunes City Recorder, Fred Hilden. This will be an opportunity for the Dunes City Council to ask questions of some of the leadership team of the WLEOG. It will also serve as an educational meeting for members of the community to supplement the disaster preparedness training and information that has already occurred in Dunes City. Finally, members of the Council and community may have interest into the actions taken regarding the recent Tsunami Warning Event from the emergency management perspective. We hope that all in Dunes City will find this of benefit! ☛

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## Getting to know your Council

**Mayor Rebecca Ruede** ~ Hello everyone, I'm Mayor Rebecca Ruede. It is my pleasure to serve the citizens of Dunes City as Mayor this year. Prior to becoming Mayor, I was Chair of the Communication & Education Committee and the Revenue Committee. These committee chairs have been reassigned to Dick Anderson and Ed Scarberry, respectively. The C & E Committee has already begun to discuss rejuvenating the Dunes City website and newsletter with creative ways that will improve communication. You will note that the newsletter insert has been re-designed with the Directory information on it. The thought was that it could be removed and used as a reference piece in your home. We will also add a flora and fauna focus that will feature Dunes City nature and wildlife.



The website will feature a current events or "hot topic" category that citizens can access for timely information on the issues before the council. The goal is to make the website more user-friendly which we hope will inspire more volunteers to get involved.

Enough about business, here is a bit of a biography that maybe some didn't know. I am employed by US Bank in Florence as Branch Manager Assistant Vice President. I've been with them for 13 very rewarding years. I hold an investment license in life and health insurance and I am a Financial Specialist for the bank as well.

Before that I worked 8 years as the Executive Director of the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce. Those were the days when the Chamber published the "Florence Book," which was a big marketing piece that drew thousands of requests for livability and statistics about Florence from all over the country. As you can see my background was in marketing and promotion which has served me well for a career in banking and public service. Rick and I will celebrate our 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary this summer. We grew up in Florence and raised our family here. Erick and Heidi both have families of their own now and we adore our three grandchildren Megan, Andraison and Alexander; of course, our favorite pastime is being with the family. Whether it's outings to the snow for some skiing or to the lake for some water skiing or just hanging at the house and playing on Woahink Lake.

A couple of fun facts about me are: I relax by painting, oil on canvas. My favorite subjects are nature scenes and vintage landscapes. You can see one of my pieces on my credenza at work. I am a PADI certified scuba diver and a published poet. I started writing poetry at age 12. My first sonnet was a tribute to my Grandfather and the last one was for Rick's Dad who passed away in January of this year.

I really enjoy working as a volunteer in public service. I believe if you think you can contribute to society then you should. It's your civic duty. 🌿

**Council President Jamie Mills** ~ My husband Robin and I traveled the Oregon coast on our honeymoon in 1996.



It was during that trip that we discovered the Florence area and made an offer on a Tsiltcoos Heights home in Dunes City. We spent about half of our time in Dunes City and the rest of the time on the family angus beef ranch in Nevada. On another visit in 2003, we discovered a piece of property closer to Siltcoos Lake, made an offer, and purchased it. It is on this lot that our home sits today. We have been asked to reveal something about ourselves in this article - some little quirk that we have. Well, I'm addicted to Egg McMuffins. There, I said it. It is all out in the open now. When you see me barreling toward town at ten in the morning, it's because I'm trying to beat the end of breakfast deadline at McDonalds. Now you know.

One of my goals as City Councilor is to update the Code of Ordinances. The Code has not been codified (meaning brought current to include all ordinances that have been passed) since 1999. This makes it very difficult for staff, council members and residents to accurately understand what our laws actually say. This will be tedious, and often mind-numbing work, but it must be done as soon as possible.

Another project I will be pursuing is to secure the future water supply for the residents of Dunes City. There are numerous options available to achieve this goal. The success will be in properly researching each option and then determining which one, or combination of options, might be best suited for Dunes City and its citizens. In the meantime, I think it is unwise to abandon any water right held by Dunes City until we are certain of the consequences of giving up those rights.

Much work has been done in preparing our community for a disaster. I would like to see that work continue and



**Council President Jamie Mills continued**

expand so that we have an organized and localized emergency plan and information dissemination system so our residents and visitors will know exactly what to do and where to find help in the event of an emergency.

A portion of the tax dollars Dunes City receives comes from people who visit our community. These economic activities are usually directly related to either Woahink or Siltcoos Lakes, or the sand dunes. While we don't have much control over the sand dunes, we can enhance the recreational opportunities on Woahink and Siltcoos by participating in programs, such as fish-stocking, and we can more actively promote tourism.

Aquatic weeds are having a devastating affect on the water quality, fish habitat, and recreational opportunities in both Woahink and Siltcoos Lakes. The decomposition of these weeds and other plant materials has been scientifically proven to play a role in increasing the nitrates and phosphorous levels in the lake that contribute to algal blooms. While many say the problem is too big to tackle, I can't help but think that sitting back and doing nothing is just not a viable, or intelligent, option. The Water Quality Committee already has a long list of projects it wishes to pursue this year, but my hope is to add the development of an aquatic weed management plan – one that specifically addresses what Dunes City residents can voluntarily do to help control aquatic weeds in the lakes.

No matter what actions the City Council chooses to take, all must be weighed as to cost versus benefit. While we might like to protect everyone from everything, it just isn't realistic. It is my hope that future Council decisions will be based on sound judgment and common sense. ♻

**Councilor Richard Koehler** ~ We are special and I am proud to help here. Without paying others to provide services, we are dependant on one another and on nature. It is impossible to compare Dunes City's particular qualities to other towns. While I was Water Quality and Communications and Education Chair I discovered creative ways to maintain our natural area and independence.



I am Richard Koehler, now your Parks and Recreation Commission Chair. As chair I will help other citizens fulfill our city's Comprehensive Plan goals by collaborating with County, State and Federal agencies to secure Dunes City as the place for recreation and touring our great rural water wonderland. I advocate low-impact and low-cost community betterment hoping that common sense and facts educate those who concern themselves with the future. Keeping transparency at the fore, I hope to be a part of a solution as I continue work as the dunescity.com webmaster.

Beside my duties as a Dunes City Councilor, I am chairman of the Siuslaw Area Partnership to Prevent Substance Abuse, working to assist young and old alike in making healthy choices through awareness. For the greatest part of my life I have been self employed as a circulatory therapist, radio producer, builder, designer and investor. My life experience has proven valuable in supporting Dunes City's independent, rural, course. I consult local groups to promote effective website design, tolerant public policy and informed participation. In all I do I ask; How do messes start and how can I stop them before they start? Participation with the City's septic maintenance, nuisance, and business license ordinances as well as the recent 'Are you Ready' disaster preparedness programs has enabled our citizens to maintain a community free of bureaucracy.

Offering organizational direction and asking tough questions have been my strong trait over the past six years of City service. Answers to how we can all be part of the solution are found in the newsletters I previously edited, website I oversee and the previous educational City events I helped produce. Wouldn't it be better that each of us do a small part now than pay for poor planning and a wasteful bureaucracy later? ♻

### Spring Cleaning Tips

Spring is finally here and everyone is eager to begin tackling their long list of outdoor chores in preparation for the summer season. Our biggest concern in Dunes City is clean drinking water. There are many things we cannot control, but there are many other things we can. Remember that all storm water (rain) runoff eventually winds up in the lakes. That means anything you put in your yard ends up in our drinking water. Please don't use anything toxic or with phosphorus in it. Phosphorus contributes to algae blooms when the lake warms up and so do animal droppings.

We are careful not to feed the wildlife for two reasons; geese ~ so they won't stay in the area instead of migrating (more poop in the lakes), deer and raccoons because people food is not good for them and contains more phosphorus. I am always surprised at the many piles of dog poop beside the road. This adds both nutrients and bacteria to our drinking water (both are bad). Also, it is best to use the car wash in town if possible, since the chemicals in it are harmful. Any expired medicines can be disposed of at the hospital. Please don't flush them into our water: the septic system cannot remove them. ♻

## Getting to know your Council *continued from page 3*

### Councilor Dick Anderson



~ I was born in Utah during the “olden” days. I received my dental degree at the University of Southern California in 1962. I practiced for many years in Lake Arrowhead, California, where I was very active in the community. I was named Citizen of the Year, was president of Rotary and also the of Chamber of Commerce; served on the hospital board and lots of other “stuff.”

One of my patients, who moved to Dunes City, returned regularly for dental care. Her glowing descriptions led to my visit where I found everything she said to be true and more. The pristine lakes, the forests, the lush green vegetation and friendly, helpful people were almost more than I could believe. As soon as we could settle our affairs we headed for Oregon and have been living happily in Dunes City for the past twenty-five years.

I have served here as president of the West Lane Community Foundation, Dunes City Planning Commission, various committees and now again as a City Councilor.

Contrary to a persistent rumor, my wife Diane, was not one of the original “Mouseketeers.” Sorry...

How fortunate we are to live in such a unique setting of our pristine forests and lakes with a moderate climate. I know of no other place like it. We enjoy a small town atmosphere with friendly neighbors. We have the luxury and responsibility to pretty much govern ourselves. We must be extremely careful not to over govern ourselves. At times, we have fallen into the trap of using big city ordinances as models for our small village type of government. We must be vigilant not to enact ordinances that we cannot enforce or that are not relevant to our unique circumstances. We must continue to safeguard our water and conserve our shorelands. It is important for us to work to restore our image and reputation caused by past differences. We must work together to keep this wonderful city a choice place to live. Your input is welcome. 🌿

**Councilor Troy Sathe** ~ I am a life-long resident of Dunes City, all 44 years. I have always been interested in the politics of the city and bringing people together. In 2010, I was appointed to the council after Councilor Quandt resigned, and I was made the Road Commission Chairman.



My goal in being on the Council is helping as many citizens as possible and making sure their voices are heard.

My interests are many, from hunting and fishing to rock hounding. As the Chair of the Road Commission, I am always looking to improve our city streets and create good public relations with our citizens. The Road Commission is striving to make all Dunes City streets as good as they can possibly be and create a format where any citizen can have their input heard.

This summer we will have a community meeting with Gary Baker as our lead speaker talking about our Pavement Management System; how the streets come up in order of Pavement Condition Index levels, and our plans for the next five years.

Any citizen who would like to attend a Road Commission meeting can come and join us every third Monday of the month at 6:30 pm at Dunes City Hall.

Thank you for your time in reading this article and have a great day. 🌿

### Outside Our Window

Many words have been written about the spectacular beauty of this place we call home; if a picture is worth 1,000 words, ours are worth at least 10,000! Our flora and fauna are unparalleled in their diversity, our window on the world – unique; we are calling upon each resident to share their favorite images by submitting their high resolution files to the DC News at [admin@dunescityor.com](mailto:admin@dunescityor.com). There will be expanded color views on our website; so if you haven’t already been inspired to e-subscribe to the DC News, request it at the same time as your submissions; save time and money, help preserve what we all cherish, and get convenient, colorful delivery, all at the same time. It’s the easiest “Green” thing you’ll ever do. Our love of this incredible place is the tie that binds us all; it is our history. Join the celebration! 🌿





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### Volunteers with a boat!!!

The Water Quality Committee is looking for volunteers that are willing to allow the use of their boat for water testers once each month. They would prefer one volunteer for Siltcoos Lake and one for Woahink Lake. Contact Jamie Mills at 541-902-7651 if you are interested. ☺

**City Council**

The City Council is comprised of a seven person non-compensated board consisting of a mayor and six councilors.

Position	Name	Term Ends
Mayor	Rebecca Ruede	1/10/2013
Council President	Jamie Mills	1/10/2013
Councilor	Dick Anderson	1/8/2015
Councilor	Richard Koehler	1/10/2013
Councilor	Ed Scarberry	1/10/2013
Councilor	Troy Sathe	1/8/2015
Councilor	Duke Wells	1/8/2015

**Budget Committee\***

Position	Name	Term Ends
Budget Officer	Fred Hilden	N/A
Citizen Member	April Dumas	6/30/2012
Citizen Member	vacancy	6/30/2012
Citizen Member	Jo Owen	6/30/2012
Citizen Member	Darlene Beckman	6/30/2013
Citizen Member	Jackie Crave	6/30/2013
Citizen Member	Maurice Sanders	6/30/2013
Citizen Member	Robert Read	6/30/2011

\* Also includes all City Council members.

**Communication & Education Committee**

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Dick Anderson	1/10/2013
Citizen Member	April Dumas	12/31/2011
Citizen Member	vacancy	12/31/2012
Citizen Member	vacancy	12/31/2013

**Conservation Committee**

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Dick Anderson	1/8/2015
Citizen Member	Judy Johnson	12/31/2013
Citizen Member	Lee Riechel	12/31/2012
Citizen Member	David Jackson	12/31/2013
Citizen Member	Ronelle Kuert	12/31/2012
Citizen Member	David Dumas	12/31/2011

**Ordinance Review Committee**

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Jamie Mills	1/12/2012
Citizen Member	George Burke	1/10/2013
Citizen Member	Steve Burton	1/9/2014

**Parks & Recreation Commission**

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Richard Koehler	1/10/2013
Citizen Member	Mimi Tizzard	6/30/2013
Citizen Member	Roberta Dalbeck	6/30/2012
Citizen Member	Gary Lapping	6/30/2011
Citizen Member	Suzie Navetta	6/30/2013

**Web Master ~ [www.dunescity.com](http://www.dunescity.com)**

Richard Koehler

**Planning Commission**

Position	Name	Term Ends
Commission Chair	Lee Riechel	12/31/2011
Commissioner	Ken Henderson	12/31/2012
Commissioner	Darlene Beckman	12/31/2012
Commissioner	Paul Gargis	12/31/2011
Commissioner	George Burke	12/31/2013
Commissioner	Norman Martin	12/31/2013

**Revenue Committee**

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Ed Scarberry	1/10/2013
Citizen Member	John Stead	12/31/2012
Citizen Member	David Bellemore	12/31/2011
Citizen Member	vacancy	12/31/2013
Citizen Member	April Dumas	12/31/2012
Citizen Member	Paul Wilbanks	12/31/2011

**Road Commission**

Position	Name	Term Ends
Commission Chair	Troy Sathe	1/8/2015
Commissioner	Jerry Curran	12/31/2011
Commissioner	Michael Smith	12/31/2013
Commissioner	Henry Leach	12/31/2013
Commissioner	Ron Tucker	12/31/2013
Commissioner	Bill Harris	12/31/2012

**Site Review Committee**

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Duke Wells	1/8/2015
Citizen Member	Milton Farrand	12/31/2013
Citizen Member	David Dumas	12/31/2013
Citizen Member	Ken Platt	12/31/2012

**Water Quality Committee**

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Jamie Mills	1/10/2013
Citizen Member	John Stead	12/31/2012
Citizen Member	Ken Henderson	12/31/2011
Citizen Member	Carlton Smith	12/31/2013
Citizen Member	David Dumas	12/31/2011
Citizen Member	Milton Farrand	12/31/2012
Citizen Member	Ronelle Kuert	12/31/2011
Citzn. Water Tester	Mark Chandler	12/31/2013
Vol. Water Tester	Steven Hager	n/a
Vol. Water Tester	vacancy	n/a

**Dunes City Staff**

Position	Name	Email
City Recorder	Fred Hilden	recorder@dunescityor.com
Planning Secretary	Lisa Ekelund	planning@dunescityor.com
Admin. Assistant	Haley Nelson	admin@dunescityor.com
Road Secretary	Selena Carter	roads@dunescityor.com
Office Hours:	Mon - Thurs	10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Phone: (541) 997-3338		Fax: (541) 997-5751
82877 Spruce St ~ PO Box 97, Westlake, OR 97493		

**Councilor Duke Wells** ~ First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the citizens of Dunes City for the privilege to serve on the City Council. Thank you!



Born in Florence in 1952, I graduated from Siuslaw High School in 1971, going right into the U.S. Air Force in 1971. I returned home as a Staff Sergeant in 1975 to work and start a family. I went to work in the woods as a logger and timber cutter. I loved the whole lifestyle of being a logger. The hard work, the danger, loggers I worked with. Life was good. A few near misses and a near-death accident, I began thinking I had better start thinking of other ways to make a living. That's when my wife and partner, Tricia, started Blue Water Spa's Patio. We offered all things to do with home hot tubs, including sales, chemicals, repairs, and a rentable, portable jetted spa. Then one day a man came by selling cedar furniture. We bought the load and sold it within a few days. A light went on! I remember thinking I can make this cedar furniture stuff.

We sold out the Blue Water Spa & Patio portion of the business and put all of our effort into Old Cedar Tree Woodworking. Over 20 years, we are still at it and love it.

There are so many things I enjoy doing, I was raised hunting and fishing. We split our tags up, so that we could hunt both Western and Eastern Oregon for Black Tail and Mule Deer and Roosevelt and Rocky Mountain Elk. Steelhead fishing is very special to me. I

also enjoy scuba diving "for food," arrowhead hunting and sheep horn hunting in Eastern Oregon. Mining for gold has also been a lot of fun.

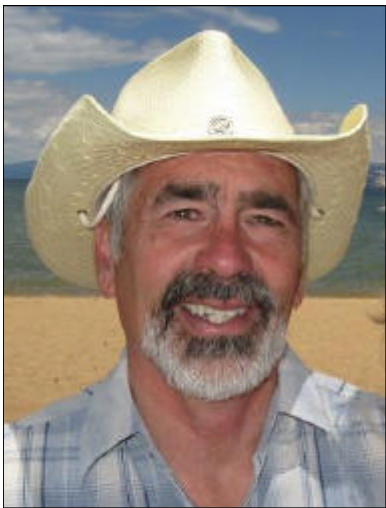
My goal on the Dunes City Council is very simple. It is, to help protect the rights of the citizens and the rights of the property owners of Dunes City.

I am the Chairman of the Site Review Committee. I like it because you have one-on-one contact with real people with real concerns. Our goal on the Site Review Committee is to always be fair, honest and open in all our inspections and reports, and to get the work done in a timely fashion.

Thank you again for letting me serve you on the Dunes City Council. Please feel free to stop by our shop and tell me what you think, or give me a call anytime.

Useless fun fact: On my fiftieth birthday, I did a swan dive off the Siuslaw Bridge. ☘

**Councilor Ed Scarberry** ~ My parents moved to Florence when I was 3 months old in 1951. I grew up in Florence and graduated from Siuslaw High School in 1969. After moving away to attend college and join the workforce, I moved back to the Coast in 1978 to teach in Reedsport where I taught for twenty years. I've been married to Leslie since 1981 and we raised three children who also became Siuslaw graduates. We have owned property in Dunes City since 2000 and lived here since 2004.



My hobbies include hunting, fishing, gardening, and beachcombing. I like to be as self-sufficient as possible and have been brewing my own beer and roasting my own coffee beans for years. Now, if only I could grow my own coffee beans, I could cut out the middleman!

My first memories of Dunes City are before it actually became a city. I remember the adults talking about the Federal Government's plan to "take over" the coast and force homeowner's to sell. My grandfather, as most other coastal residents, was adamant about not letting the Feds force this on us. The rest, as they say, is history. A small city formed to combat the far-reaching hands of big government.

I remember visits with a school friend whose father had become Dunes City's first Mayor, Phil Himmel. We all thought this was pretty neat that we knew a "real Mayor." We skied from their dock at various times and found that Woahink didn't feel as cold in February and March as it did in the summer, plus, we didn't have the wind blowing as it does in the Summer months!

My governmental experience includes eight years on the Siuslaw School Board and a short stint on the Florence Design Review board. Since moving to Dunes City, I have watched the proceedings at City Hall very closely. As time progressed, I became more concerned about the future of this area and how we all might be affected by new regulations and mandates. I kept my involvement to a minimum and basically waited for the 'dust to settle' and see how homeowners were going to be affected.

The current Council is one I look forward to assisting in the time left on my appointed Council seat. There are several areas or regulation I see the new Council fine-tuning that I think will be beneficial to both residents and Dunes City.

Personally, I liken Government to onions on my hamburger: Just enough to get the job done, but too much leaves a bad aftertaste. ☘





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