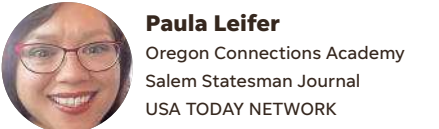


Adults benefit from summer learning



Paula Leifer
Oregon Connections Academy
Salem Statesman Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

We know that children need to keep their minds active over summer vacation or they may lose important learning power before school starts up again in the fall. Adults also benefit from becoming life-long learners. Active minds improve the health of our careers, our social lives, and our bodies.

So, when school is out for summer, teachers often begin their personal learning journey, whether it's in the out-back or the backyard.

I asked a few colleagues at Oregon Connections Academy what summer learning adventures they had planned. Some are updating their gardens, teach-

ing ceramic camps, traveling abroad or camping around Oregon.

Here are a few examples of the ways teachers keep their brains active during summer.

Misha Moon, a high school adviser from Portland, is working on her first novel. "This is the first time I've ever written a novel. What I hope to learn through the process is how to set small daily goals to meet a much bigger goal. I also want to read other writers carefully so I can learn from their writing styles," Moon said.

Stephanie Imig, an ORCA High School english teacher from Portland, is an avid runner who loves spending time outdoors. She will run the Wy' East Wonder, a 50K race on Mount Hood, run a new race on the mountain called the Gnar Gnar and help lead a Mazama Ultra-running Camp for adults at Hood. The biggest challenge may be a back-

packing trip for her son and three of his friends, all 10-year old boys.

Imig said summer will involve learning and testing. "Yes, I did say testing, but there are no essays, multiple choice options, or computers. Instead, I will be busy testing my limits."

For me, my summer involves celebrating my last year in graduate school. My husband and I planned a trip to Eastern and Central Europe. We'll spend a few days in Prague then take a river cruise down the Danube river through Germany, Austria, and ending in Budapest Hungary.

I want to find out more about the history of the Czech Republic and Budapest and the cultural aspects of Slovakia and Hungary. The Danube will be adventurous from many perspectives considering it flows through more countries than any other river in the world.

I hope to learn more about historical

events, like the Nuremberg trials, held in Nuremberg, Germany after World War II in the 1940's to bring Nazi war criminals to justice. I would also love to hear music in Vienna, Austria, known as "The City of Music" because of all the famous composers from there.

We will stay at a farm on the Isle of Man in the Irish Sea at the end of our trip and will stargaze at the island's wonderful Dark Sky sites.

Whether you plan a trip out of town or a project in the yard, the possibilities for learning are many. I hope all of us can take on a new learning opportunity this summer and make education a habit in the years ahead.

Oregon Connections Academy High School math teacher Paula Leifer is from Coos Bay. More information about Oregon Connections Academy is available at OregonConnectionsAcademy.com or by calling (800) 382-6010.

Walters sworn in as Oregon Supreme Court chief justice

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORTLAND — Martha Walters has been sworn in as chief justice of the Oregon Supreme Court, the first woman to lead the state's highest court.

Walters, 67, was elected by her fellow justices to succeed Thomas Balmer, who has served on the court since 2001 and will remain on the bench. Walters, sworn in July 2, will preside over the seven-member court for the next six years.

Walters said she plans to use her new role to ensure Oregonians have access to

a fair and impartial justice system.

"We are at the forefront of the problems the people in our society face," Walters said.

Walters graduated from the University of Oregon School of Law in 1977, and then worked as a lawyer in Eugene.

She was part of the legal team that won a 2001 U.S. Supreme Court case on behalf of professional golfer Casey Martin, who sued the PGA Tour over its requirement that players must walk during tournament play. The court ruled that Martin, whose circulatory disorder made it difficult for him to walk, was

protected under the Americans with Disabilities Act and must be allowed to use a golf cart.

Gov. Ted Kulongoski appointed Walters to the Oregon Supreme Court in 2006.

She has since won two elections.

Balmer described his replacement as enthusiastic, smart and hardworking. He noted that there were no women justices when Walters joined the court in 2006.

Now there are five.

"She will set a high bar for the next chief justice, whether it's a man or

woman, because she will do a great job."

The year Walters graduated law school, Betty Roberts became the first woman appointed to the Oregon Court of Appeals. Roberts went on to become the first woman on the Oregon Supreme Court in 1982.

Walters said she looked up to Roberts and knows she might inspire other women who wish to follow in her career path.

"You're just an infinitesimal part of the cosmos, but just being able to be that part is a pretty special thing," Walters said.

Fishing

Continued from Page 1B

run, which at last check seems to be on the decline, go online to http://www.fpc.org/CurrentDaily/histfisht-wo_7day-ytd_Adults.htm

And by all means, don't fish like Henry. Pack a rain jacket.

Someday I'll learn.

After all, it's only been three decades since I got here.

Memo to self: Remember that it's not just whether the fish are in ... it's whether the fish are in.

Item II: Late notice, I know.

My bad, but this is an opportunity for kids that is not to be missed.

Dick Wasson, a longtime fishing/clamming buddy and one of the ringmasters for the event said that registrations will be available on-site at the Saturday, July 7 19th annual Youth Clay Target Clinic, which will be held at Mid-Valley Clays and Shooting School (formerly Mitchell's Clay Target Sports, formerly Salem Trap & Skeet, etc.), 6181 Concomly Road near Gervais.

Sign-in for youths ages 10 to 18 is 9 to 10 a.m. followed by hands-on instruction and supervised shooting practice from 10 a.m. until noon.

Everything is free – one box of shells (loaner 12- and 20-gauge shotguns will be available), 25 clay targets, eye and ear protection, and a post-shoot lunch with awards presentations.

First-time shooters and those who never have handled a firearm are welcome. It's a great opportunity for kids to learn safe gun-handling, and have a blast at the same time.

The event is sponsored by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Oregon Hunters Association and Sportsman's Warehouse.

To get to Mid-Valley, take Highway 99E north from Brooks off of Interstate 5 and look for the Gun Club sign at Concomly on the left. Or take River Road N out of Keizer and watch for the turn at Concomly on the right. Mid-Valley is on the east side of Interstate 5.

For more information online, go to

www.myodfw.com and click on the Workshops & Events link at the right-hand side at the top of the page.

Or call coordinators Myrna Britton at (503) 947-6028 or Wasson at (541) 996-9984.

Item III: If I may be allowed a non-linear digression, Kay and I saw "Won't you be my neighbor," a biography about Fred Rogers of the PBS show "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood" the past weekend at Salem Cinema.

In more than 40 years of journalism, I have to say – and often have – that my phone interview with Fred, which he insisted that I call him, was the most satisfying and memorable of my career.

More than Schwarzenegger, Jessie Jackson, Michael Jordan ... anybody.

The setup was that I was doing a snippet, the merest whiff of fluff, for the briefs in the Life Section in the Statesman Journal about the then-annual PBS Mr. Rogers' Sweater Drive for the needy.

On a whim I asked the then-Life editor Mike Stephens, if I should try to call Mr. Rogers for a quote. The response was something like "why not."

So I got a hold of one of his minions at the PBS station in Pittsburgh where the show was filmed.

He checked with Fred, and then gave me a phone number and time.

You've got 10, maybe 15 minutes, he said. It was the most satisfying 45 minutes (we apparently had the same concrete respect for deadlines) that I've ever spent with an interview subject.

It has to do with passion, honesty, sincerity, and most of all integrity.

And don't know why I asked, but I did: Did Mr. Rogers have any regrets?

Fred, an ordained Presbyterian minister, said a fellow former seminarian invited him to go on the 1965 Selma-to-Montgomery, Alabama, voting rights march with Martin Luther King.

Fred said that he couldn't go to the march because he was setting up production for his children's show.

See the movie.

You'll know what I mean.

Henry Miller is a retired outdoor columnist and writer for the Statesman Journal. You can reach him via email at HenryMillerSJ@gmail.com

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