

The small town atmosphere is not found in many places around. Particularly a place such as Clatsop County. The good times I have had doing all sorts of things have mostly affected my life in a positive way. Right now, the summer camp I grew up with for a week or two each year in my younger days is in the way of a golf course, but this can't happen. Camp Kiwanilong was a special place, a different place from the real world. Clatsop County may undergo a great change or not much whatsoever depending on the attitude of the inhabitants.

I think Astoria will be the same, the city never changes, but it could be a genuine "Hollywood Up North" due to the success of *Free Willy*, *Goonies* and *Kindergarten Cop*. I'm just thinking to myself and saying, "Hey, why am I talking about these movies, they will be ancient by the time this essay is looked at."

Alright. Seaside is different than quite a few places around here. It is sort of the outcast of this county although it is pretty much the center of the area. I don't know, it's changing. I personally don't think for the better. Other things make up the "Clatsop Metropolitan Area" but not significant enough to work with.

People. This is the one thing that will cause the county to change. Ideas, some good, others bad, will change the face of what I am looking at this day... Most of the buildings will change along with the change and influx of people within the community. New buildings will all be earthquake proof, while the old buildings still left standing will soon be crumbling. Transportation. Industry. Economic structure. Power. Ideas. These words all connect the future and in the midst disrupt the county on its path to become perfect. The Columbia River will be flowing at a powerful rate once again since the dams will be gone. Nuclear fusion, the future of power, harmless, will give power to the vehicles we get around in. The county will have a new culture with different ways.

Times are a changin'!

~RYAN JAMES BANDONIS
Seaside High School

I think life in Clatsop County could be great if we all pitched in on helping the environment. There would be tons of salmon in the rivers and elk in the forests. There would always be clean, fresh air and beautiful parks. Springs would be full of beautiful flowers and summers full of warm days. The Astor Column would be restored and the Cathedral Tree would be a national park. The Maritime Museum and the Flavel House would be clean and beautiful.

~NATAHALIE MATSON
John Jacob Astor Elementary (Astoria)

In year 2044 I hope it will be as beautiful as it is now but if not I hope it will be more beautiful. Maybe it will not be beautiful. Maybe it will be like Portland. It could be bigger or smaller or the same. Clatsop County is beautiful. I hope it never changes. Where I live it's peaceful and quiet. I hope some things change but most don't.

There's not as many people here as most places. I like the weather very much. It's sunny in the summer and cold in the winter. The only thing I don't like is it doesn't snow very often and when it does it's only about an inch. I really like it here and in 2044 I hope it's the same.

~TARYN ARNOLD
Lewis & Clark Elementary

In the year 2044 they might find out that there is buried treasure in Cannon Beach. Seaside might have underground caves where pirates used to live. They might build cabins on Cannon Beach. Astoria may build 12 museums with dinosaurs, spaceship and other things. Knappa might build a Target store. I think Clatsop County will stay a great place to live and Westport might build even more and bigger schools. Astoria might even build more campgrounds. The water in Cannon Beach might be very clean and not polluted. Seaside might build an ice rink and they (might) get more arcades and more rides at the Astoria fair.

~JENNIFER YOKES
Captain Robert Gray Elementary (Astoria)

People zip up and down the highway in their shiny new solar-electric powered hover cars at 120 mph. Pedestrians cross the road on a street lift, much like a ski lift, getting on the seat on one side of the road and being lifted high above the traffic below to be deposited on the other side.

Shop owners in the cities advertise their merchandise to people miles away by lasers writing the messages in the sky.

Children visit the park to play on the self-propelled merry-go-round and to gaze at the Tree. The Tree is the only tree left in Clatsop County. All the others have been chopped down and sent to Japan, (which) is developing some kind of recyclable car.

We are in Clatsop County in the year 2044. Today is a proud day for me because my daughter is running for mayor of the booming city of Astoria and today is election day. The citizens of Astoria no longer have to go to the designated voting building. They can call the city of Astoria's private voting line and vote by phone. The telephones are now more complex than the phones of (1994). They are called holo-phones and they show a holographic image of whoever is calling and of the person on the other side, so it's much more interactive.

In some ways our future might be better than the present, but in other ways worse. The future will be better technology-wise, but sometimes that isn't always better. Sometimes we just need to stop and smell the roses.

~VICTORIA SAGE
Astoria Middle School



TAMI KELLER, CANNON BEACH SCHOOL

I believe that life in Clatsop County in 2044 will be much different than life in 1994. Advancements will have been made in many fields such as medicine, technology and architecture. Every building will be earthquake proofed by 2044 and the sewer and water systems will be improved. Instead of working for diplomas, high school students will be working towards CIMS and CAMs. Cars will run on electricity, not on fossil fuels, and the highways and other roads will have been improved. People will be much more committed to saving the Earth. Recycling will be mandatory for all citizens in Clatsop County.

Despite all the advances some things will remain the same. The coastal towns will still attract irritating tourists, and people will still flock to Seaside for the 4th of July celebration. And somewhere in some obscure English class, 23 forlorn students will be slaving over an essay about Clatsop County for the next time capsule.

~BETH LOGSDEN
Warrenton High School

In the year 2044, Clatsop County will be an industrious culture. Simple two storey buildings will have turned into sky rises. Double lane streets will be tripled. People will walk along city blocks wearing dress suits and carrying brief cases rather than wearing jogging suits and carrying grocery bags.

The economy of Clatsop County in the year 2044 will seem like a drive through downtown Portland in 1994. Rush-hour traffic crowds the streets, the homeless beg for food in city parks, and a collage of advertisements crowds every streetlight and telephone pole.

Life in Clatsop County will be a drastic change from 1994. People will no longer come to see the beauty. Instead they will come for the jobs. Longtime residents will not be leaving for vacation; they will be leaving for good. In the year 2044, Clatsop County will be one huge metropolis.

~LORI ANN HASKELL
Warrenton High School

Unlike most areas of the country Clatsop County will have its forests. Its air will be clean, and its river will be non-polluted.

Many people from California will have moved up here. Seaside will have about twice the population of Astoria because of its major tourist attractions. Roads will be widened, buildings will be built and boats will frequently go up and down the Columbia River. The quiet life of Clatsop County will be gone forever.

Gangs and drugs will be a major threat to the well-being of Astoria and Seaside. The influence of religion will most likely be gone from society. But if the citizens of Clatsop County can overcome these problems, the future looks bright.

~DAVID MICKELSON
North Coast Christian School (Hammond)

I think Clatsop County will have battery powered cars. There will be more buildings and the buildings will change. There will be better jails, cars and people. The schools will be better. The schools will have nicer computers, desks and books. The jails will have better locks and cell rooms. The people will be better and there won't be as much crime. The parks will be better. They'll have nice swings and slides and not as much trash. Smoking will be against the law.

~GENE WRIGHT
Star of the Sea School (Astoria)

In the year 2044, Clatsop County will have new schools with baseball and football stadiums, large gyms, a large but nice cafeteria, playgrounds with a twisty-slide, two 15-foot climbing poles, a 5-foot crossing bars that are six feet off the ground, eight swings and four swings for young kids, four see-saws with rubber pads for safety, and four hanging bars.

In the year 2044, Clatsop County will have a new fairgrounds. It will have large horse stalls, bigger cow stalls, steel-poled cement floored pig stalls, sheep and goat stalls made with sanded down or steel poles. All of the stalls or cages will be made for the animals' safety and comfort.

In the year 2044, Clatsop County will be crime-free and drug-free!

~CLARE ENGLE
Star of the Sea School

CLATSOP 2044

Anthony woke up Monday morning and looked out his window and stared at the cloud of smog that lay above the roof of his house. He got dressed and ready for school. Anthony has to walk because budget cuts have forced buses to be eliminated. He walked past the mall downtown and took a stroll past the five storey business on his daily voyage to school. He watched someone get mugged as he crossed the street. Through a chain-link fence Anthony could see kids his own age standing around who had no destiny to go to school or do anything for that matter. He had heard stories of when there used to be a forest space around here. He listened to the constant ringing of cellular phones, trying desperately to find shade from the heat. He walked past the mayor with his countless assistants trying hopelessly to get things back to the way they were in 1994. He was learning in history how there used to be something called the "ozone layer." He watched somebody drive recklessly down the crowded streets, probably with a slight hangover. He saw someone selling the cure for AIDS on the side streets. It worked.

Tourists took snapshots of the populated streets to keep for the wonderful memories of their journey to the Oregon coast. Anthony watched a business tycoon talk into a computer as the words came upon the screen. Through the window of a drug store he could see another businessman in a meeting through a VIA satellite.

When Anthony finally got to school he entered his smallest class with 54 kids in it. Budget cuts took their toll on teachers so classes are taught with computers. Yes, life as we know it in Clatsop County will change, maybe for better, maybe for worse, we'll see.

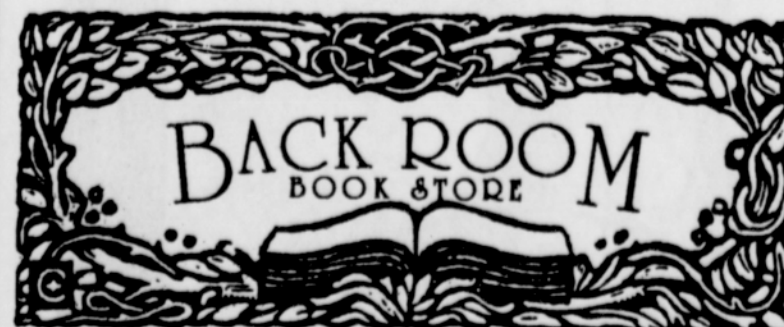
~CHRIS HOLMSTEDT
Astoria Middle School



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