

THE DAILY ASTORIAN

Founded in 1873



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Water under the bridge



Compiled by Bob Duke

From the pages of Astoria's daily newspapers

10 years ago this week — 2005

After a 36-hour run at sea, racing to bring in the catch from several hundred basket-like traps, called pots, a crewman stooped in the dark hold of the Star King unloading the goods: hundreds of pounds of squirming, snapping Dungeness crabs.

In a little over two months, Oregon's crabbing fleet has landed a record-setting 24 million pounds of the West Coast's signature crab — more than double the average annual catch for the past decade.

But fisherman Rex Simantel, squinting in the harsh wind, looked over his catch with some disappointment last week. Like other longtime crabbers, Simantel worries that a gold rush mentality has drawn too many boats and too much gear to the crab fishery. They fear another hard fall for coastal fishing towns, including Astoria and Warrenton.

A fourth proposal for a liquefied natural gas receiving terminal has cropped up along the Columbia River, and the developers say they are ready to start the permitting process with the federal energy agency.

Northern Star Natural Gas LLC, a Houston-based energy company, hopes to import the supercooled fossil fuel to the site at Bradwood, downstream from Wauna at river mile 38, where it will be stored in two large tanks, re-gasified and put into a new pipeline.

It's official — Astoria is the destination for Cycle Oregon 2005.

The route for the popular week-long bike trek was announced Tuesday night at the event's official kick-off in Beaverton.

The ride will bring 2,000 cyclists to Astoria Sept. 17 at the end of a route inspired by the 200th anniversary of the Lewis and Clark expedition.

50 years ago — 1965

"Lewis and Clark," a special full-hour colorcast commemorating and re-creating the historic Lewis and Clark expedition 1804-06 that opened the way to the American Northwest, will be presented 10-11 p.m. Tuesday on KGW-TV.

Business at the Astoria Plywood Corporation continued to grow substantially in 1964, officials reported following annual meetings of the corporation last weekend.

Last year's production was more than 78 million feet of plywood valued at \$5.8 million, most of it going to out-of-state buyers officials said.

The much-heralded hour-long television show Tuesday night on the Lewis and Clark expedition was an interesting report, but it left keen disappointment among the many local people who stayed up late to watch it.

The show took three quarters of an hour to get the expedition as far west at the top of the Rocky Mountains, another seven minutes to reach the Snake river, and from there it skipped swiftly to the rockbound shores of the Pacific in a few hasty scenes. It omitted pictures made by the TV expedition last fall at Fort Clatsop, as well as most of those made of Quinault Indians who brought their dugout canoes to Ilwaco to be filmed.

Fort Clatsop never appeared at all, nor did the Astoria Sea Scouts who dressed themselves as Lewis and Clark party members for scenes filmed at that spot. The only reference to Fort Clatsop was that the expedition spent a wet and dismal winter there.

The J.J. Astor experiment station's Guemsey cattle herd has won top national honors in butterfat production for the second consecutive year in 1964, Director Don Claypool of the station reported Tuesday.

75 years ago — 1940

Within 45 days motorists in Astoria will be fishing for pennies and nickels in their pockets to feed parking meters.

Installation of meters was approved by a unanimous vote of the city council Friday night. The bid of the Dual Parking Meter company for placing from 300 to 400 of the machines in Astoria was accepted. It is expected that the city will select the stainless steel automatic meter, costing \$63.50 installed. This permits 12 minutes of parking for a penny, 24 minutes for two pennies, 36 minutes for three pennies, one hour for a nickel, and two hours for two nickels.

The 23-year-old service record of John L. Stangeland as an Astoria street car company employee and a bus driver ended dramatically on the job Saturday afternoon when he slumped at the wheel of a west-bound bus on the Smith point curve Saturday afternoon.

ALTOONA — The local boys working in Cattardi a short distance below the Clyde Bailey residence, were ordered by Coroner Pollworth to rebury the skeleton they accidentally unearthed there several days ago. According to old timers in this vicinity and records in Cathlamet there was at one time an Indian burial ground in that vicinity, but evidence points to the conclusion that the skeleton was that of a white person as the Indians who used that burial ground had shaped skulls flat in the back.

The American people are duty bound to civilization to stay out of war in order to "keep the fires of freedom" burning until guns cease firing.

This was the argument for peace made by E. Palmer Hoyt, publisher of the Portland Oregonian, in an address on "War and Propaganda" before the monthly forum of the Astoria Chamber of Commerce in the Astoria hotel.

A United States at peace when war ends in Europe will offer conflict-maddened countries a guide, the publisher said in presenting the views of Harold J. Laski, English economist, on the importance of civilization of American neutrality.

Should America become involved in the struggle it could no longer be model of democracy, the publisher indicated.

Amateur hour puts Sen. Wyden in a bind

IN THE WORLD OF Laddiction counseling the truism is that every alcoholic affects 10 other people.

In the world of politics, a boneheaded decision affects hundreds of people and sometimes an entire nation.

House Speaker John Boehner made life needlessly difficult for a lot of people by issuing a unilateral invitation to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to speak to a joint session of Congress. Boehner especially made life difficult for Jewish senators. By politicizing American relations with Israel, the speaker excluded Democrats from his decision, even though the vast majority of American Jews are Democrats.

Over lunch last week I asked Oregon Sen. Ron Wyden, a Democrat, whether he would attend the March joint session. Wyden told me he had not made up his mind.

Boehner's amateur foray into foreign relations was a lot about the Republican obsession with sticking it to President Obama; it's also about helping Netanyahu win in Israel's elections, which shortly follow his Capitol Hill talk. Where Netanyahu and Boehner see eye to eye is on sabotaging America's talks with Iran over its development of nuclear capability.

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I ASKED WYDEN HOW many Jews are in the Senate. It is down from 10 senators with the departure of Sen. Carl Levin of Michigan.

In the long term Boehner has done Israel's cause little good, because he's making support for Israel a partisan matter, when the overwhelming number of Jewish federal lawmakers are Democrats.

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WHEN RICHARD L. Neuberger of Portland became Oregon's first Democratic U.S. Senator in 40 years — in 1954 — Oregon was a much more rural state. So it was interesting that this urban Jewish Democrat defeated a traditional incumbent Republican senator from Roseburg. The race between Guy Cordon and Neuberger was so close that it took two days to decide, and it was rural Eastern Oregon that gave Neuberger his narrow margin of victory. My father was the only daily newspaper editor



DAMIAN MULINIX — EO Media Group

U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden leans on a chair while answering a question from the audience during his town hall meeting at the Columbia River Maritime Museum Saturday.

'The time has come,' the Walrus said,
 To talk of many things;
 Of shoes — and ships — and sealing wax —
 Of cabbages — and kings —'

Through the Looking-glass



of Cabbages and Kings

Sen. Ron Wyden is a direct political descendant of Sen. Richard L. Neuberger.

in Oregon to endorse Neuberger.

Upon election, Neuberger's most prominent Jewish colleagues were Herbert Lehman of New York and Ernest Gruening.

Interestingly, there has never been a compilation of Jews who have served in the U.S. Senate from the First Congress onward. Why? Because many Jewish senators did not self-identify, according to Senate Historical Office Director Don Ritchie.

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DICK NEUBERGER WAS A pivot point in Oregon political history. Prior to him, the state Democratic Party was "very inarticulate," in the words of a Neuberger contemporary whom I interviewed some 30 years ago. Neuberger created the modern Democratic Party of Oregon. He was an early conservationist (the word environmentalist was not in our parlance), a prolific writer and author and a born marketer.



Richard Neuberger

Neuberger made it possible for Sen. Wayne Morse — a former Republican — to move from his Independent status to Democrat. Neuberger's writings and speeches heavily influenced the young Tom McCall, a liberal Republican.

Thus Ron Wyden — who won election as a Portland congressman in 1980 — is Neuberger's direct political descendant.

As of this writing, Wyden's press liaison said he is "probably going" to the Netanyahu joint session speech.

—S.A.F.



GUEST COLUMN

Job Corps mission is relevant today

By SEN. BETSY JOHNSON
 For The Daily Astorian

We recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of Tongue Point Job Corps Center, but if you look back on some of the early newspaper stories about the center, you might wonder what year we're living in.

Here's a quote from *The Oregonian* by a 39-year-old instructor named David Callahan on the occasion of the center's first anniversary in 1966: "Tongue Point has tremendous implications for public education. At the moment almost all high schools are preparing individuals for college, but to expect all individuals to go to college is unrealistic."

At the time, the center was open only to young male dropouts, who were trained primarily as repairmen in all facets of the marine industry or as repairmen in appliance, electronics or automotive fields.

A year later in the same newspaper, Callahan said he was leaving to take a job with an educational firm in Michigan, and he noted, "To my knowledge not one school superintendent in Oregon or any boards of education have come to visit Tongue Point to acquaint themselves with what we have learned about the high school dropout."

Considering the problem — even back then — of high school dropouts, Callahan added, "(T)he Job Corps cannot begin to train all of these kids, yet we are spending a lot of money trying to find out how to educate them so that, hopefully, local school districts will learn from these programs and improve the public school systems."

All these years later, what have we learned about educating young people, particularly those flirting with aimless-

ness and long-term unemployment?

According to a U.S. Department of Education report released this year, Oregon's high-school graduation rate for the class of 2013 is the worst of any state in the nation. In 2012, it was second-worst. In 2011, fourth worst.

The Tongue Point instructor was right. It was unrealistic a half century ago to think all students should go to college. It's even more unrealistic now. We're still trying to reconcile our national devotion to the concept of "college" with the reality of the workplace, and the reality that some young men and women don't look upon college as a guarantee to a better life.

We need to be truthful about what works in education.

One of the latest ideas proposed by President Obama is free community college. Several Oregon legislators are working on a variation of such a plan. Of course, nothing is ever free, and our schools don't need more unfunded mandates. Free community college could turn into that.

More importantly, when people participate even modestly in a benefit they receive, they put a higher value and premium on it. While the trainees at Tongue Point Job Corps Center don't pay for their education, they are required to make other sacrifices: They must adhere to strict regulations regarding drugs, alcohol and violence.

It's not uncommon for some new trainees to chafe under such restrictions and leave the program. That helps those who want to stay and learn without distractions.

We should consider if there are other aspects of the Job Corps experience that

can be useful elsewhere.

In the early days of the Job Corps, Sargent Shriver, who was then director of the Office of Economic Opportunity and oversaw the program, pointed out that the training centers run by businesses seemed to be more efficient. The trainees had fewer behavioral problems. In a Sept. 6, 1965, story in *The New York Times*, he offered a theory about why business corporations, like Litton Industries, IBM and Packard-Bell, working under contract with the government, seemed better at getting results from young corpsmen: "They are good managers. They know what kind of employees they need. They train people in realities. The kids know they're dealing with reality."

Shriver said that since the corpsmen were all high school dropouts, in their minds school was an artificial place. A body repair shop at a training center, though, is the real thing.

Right now in Clatsop County we are working to replicate a successful career and tech program used in Tillamook County. In partnership with Hampton Lumber, Stimson Lumber and the Tillamook Creamery, Tillamook High School students are learning practical career skills prized by local industries. If we are successful, Astoria High School students will have the same opportunity to acquire relevant knowledge, which they can use to build a career and a life.

This is the kind of practical idealism Shriver championed. Times columnist Bob Herbert recalled an interview he'd had with Shriver, who died in 2011. Looking back on his years at the Office of Economic Opportunity, he told Herbert, "We made an effort during that time to find out what was true, and what was needed by way of improvement."

We need to be truthful about what works in education, and forget what might be politically popular.

Sen. Betsy Johnson represents Oregon Senate District 16.