

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

Beyond the concerns over the safety and security of liquefied natural gas receiving terminals, there is a more commercial concern the industry should be considering: Companies could be spending tens of trillions of dollars on LNG import infrastructure, but might find that the supply of the fossil fuel is quickly exhausted.

Julian Darley of the Post-Carbon Institute, based in Vancouver, British Columbia, presented this idea to attendees of an LNG-centered Earth Day forum Saturday. He said that this is the argument opponents should make when fighting the locally proposed projects.

Motorists slowed to watch the armed men in camouflage outfits at a house across from Seaside High School at 7 p.m. Tuesday.

A command center, with other trucks and equipment, was in the high school parking lot.

But the "suspects" and the "hostage" holed up in the house were acting a role, and the team was working on training.

The Eugene SWAT team was headed for its annual training at Rilea Armed Forces Training Center, but a scheduling mix-up had it conflicting with another group's schedule.

Team Commander Lt. Thomas Turner thanked Seaside police for helping his 30-person team find a vacant house where they could practice defusing a hostage situation.

After several delays, demolition of the former downtown Safeway will begin early next week.

At a special meeting Thursday, the Astoria City Council unanimously approved an additional \$19,000 for removing asbestos from the roof of the old building.

City officials didn't know the roof of the old building contained the hazardous substance, asbestos, Astoria Mayor Willis Van Duesen explained.

50 years ago — 1965

Span 6 of the Astoria bridge floated into position at high tide Monday and was dropped with no difficulty into place as the tide receded.

This was the third steel span of the bridge to be fabricated in Vancouver, floated to the bridge site on a falsework structure on two barges, and put into place at high tide.

An estimated 500-600 gillnet boats opened the commercial spring Chinook salmon season on the Columbia River Tuesday.

The boats were fishing from Bonneville dam to Astoria on the opening day of what was expected to be the best spring Chinook season "in 10 years."

The expansion plans for Fort Stevens State Park as told by highway engineers here last week are based on land acquisitions now in progress which will triple the size of the present park. The expansion will also provide more camping and picnicking facilities as well as additional maritime sports facilities, taking advantage of the lower Columbia River to which the expanded park will reach.

Columbia River Bar Pilots' office received official word Wednesday that the tanker Manhattan, the nation's largest cargo vessel, will leave Portland Friday at 5 a.m., arriving at Astoria "about noon."

The 940-foot ship will be carrying a 50,000 ton load of grain and will take a draft of 34 feet when it leaves Portland. The Columbia River channel is only 35 feet deep.

Thursday morning's earthquake shook Astoria and environs in two distinctly separate tremors, the second one accompanied by a loud roaring noise, but apparently did no serious damage.

75 years ago — 1940

Collections of funds for Finnish Relief exceeded \$13,000 and probably places Astoria and Clatsop County at the nation's top in per capita contribution, W.P. O'Brian, chairman of the Finnish Relief committee announced today.

The 1940 commercial fishing season on the Columbia opened at noon today with a strike suspending all activity.

The strike was called by a special conference of the delegates of the union, representing various drifts on the river, at a meeting in the Labor temple Tuesday afternoon.

A cougar has been alarming residents living east of Ilwaco's city limits. Sunday night the animal killed seven goats which were being used for clearing land at the A.E. Becken place near the Wallcut River. Several hunters are on the lookout for him as there is a \$50 bounty on cougars.

Fishing will begin on the Columbia River Sunday night at 7 p.m., following the signing of fish price and cannery workers agreements by union officials and cannery operators this afternoon.

"Where's the fish?" is the only unsettled matter in the minds of gillnetters from Bonneville to the seas, as they unpack their nets and prepare to go fishing Sunday night.

There is little change in the number of boats engaged in gillnetting on the Columbia, but more of the craft are operated by one man. During the first week of the season and in August when the great run of Chinooks enters the Columbia most of the boats have two men.

The shortage of ships and the pressure for compulsory arbitration legislation are the two outstanding threats to labor peace in the Pacific Coast maritime industry, Arbitrator Wayne L. Morse told the state convention of the Junior Chamber of Commerce this weekend.

"We cannot cram down the throats of strong American minorities legislation which they will refuse to obey," Morse said in his address Saturday night.

Duke lives on KMUN

KMUN IS MANY THINGS. It is a community resource. It also gives creative people an outlet. Over many years the radio station has aired a number of homegrown broadcast projects. Another will appear tonight at 6. It is a two-hour tribute to Duke Ellington, on his birthday. Will and Sam Chapman have assembled the show from recordings in the collection of the late Vern Barth.

Astoria has known some remarkable collectors. Rolf Klep's collection of maritime artifacts became the base of the Columbia River Maritime Museum. Bob Drucker's collection of Indian baskets and native American artifacts attracted the attention of the Smithsonian Institution. Michael Foster's art collection is legendary. And then there was Vern Barth.

The first inkling I had of the extent of Barth's collecting came at the Astoria Post Office. Vern and I were going through our mail. I showed him a jazz record catalogue, thinking he would find it interesting. "I have everything they've ever offered," he said.

Oh. Will Chapman says there are easily 2,000 records and as many CDs in Barth's collection.

Vern Barth was one of Astoria's great collectors.

DURING BARTH'S BROADCASTING years, he held down the Wednesday night slot of KMUN's jazz programming. Like Chris Gilde and Ben Hunt, Barth infused his shows with deep commentary on the music. On Tuesday night, Chris Gilde devoted his show likewise to Ellington's birthday. The special appeal of Gilde's presentation was several actualities of Ellington, talking about his music. In one, he says that money is no judge of an art form's quality.

I am in the midst of reading Terry Teachout's *Duke: A Life of Duke Ellington*, in which the author dispels a few legends about America's greatest, most prolific composer. Teachout — who is also a bassist — conveys the essence of Ellington's genius.

'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



Duke Ellington

THE NEXT BIG JAZZ EVENT will be the Sunday afternoon concert in the McTavish Room. Ben Hunt is presenting Nancy King and Steve Cristofferson. The intimacy of the McTavish Room makes it a great venue for jazz.

Vern Barth was one of Astoria's great collectors.

ONE REASON MOST OF US are turned off by national politics is that it has become a cliché. Our city hall reporter Derrick DePledge and I covered Capitol Hill during separate 10 year periods. After reading last Thursday's *Wall Street Journal*, I asked Derrick whether he recognized some of its headlines. "Signs of Comity Are Mounting in the Senate," could have been written several times over the past decades. In the follow-

ing headline ("Clinton Walking Fine Line on Trade Deal"), Clinton and trade deal could be swapped for another candidate's name and another issue — like Rubio Walking Fine Line on Immigration.

My favorite was the headline on Fred Barnes' opinion page article: "Why the Stakes in 2016 Are So High." Derrick responded with a headline that both of us had seen before: "The most significant presidential election in our lifetime."

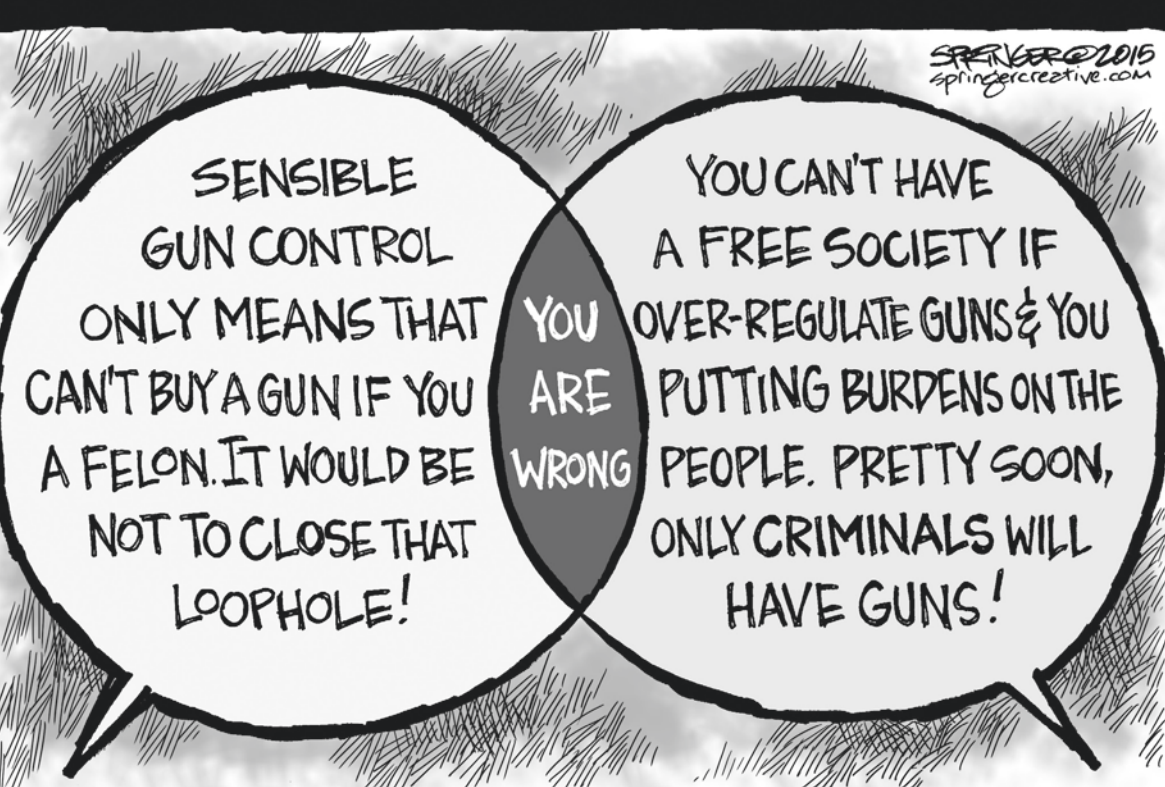
The cartoonist Mark Alan Stamaty captured Capitol Hill as a cliché in his comic strip, Washington. Stamaty's main character was Congressman Bob Forehead, who was a member of the JFK Lookalike Caucus.

I SMILED WHEN I READ news that the 300-seat Gem Theater in Athena was getting a makeover. Organizers of the Gem's restoration have received \$200,000 in grants. Athena is the smaller neighbor of Pendleton, where the Rivoli Theater is being restored. I'm sure the Rivoli's progress has been something of an inspiration to the Gem organizers. And the Rivoli's organizers were inspired by restoration of the Liberty Theater in Astoria. What a wonderful chain of events.

—S.A.F.



COMMON GROUND IN OREGON'S GUN CONTROL DEBATE



Open forum

Many volunteers

Thank you for the article "Clatsop County honors 2014 givers" (*The Daily Astorian*, April 12) acknowledging the awards presented at the county commissioners April 8 regular session. As one of those standing to receive certificates of recognition that night, I would like to make it clear that we seven were only representing the many more volunteers who serve the Clatsop County Animal Shelter, and make it the Outstanding Volunteer Group of the year.

RODNEY L. MERRILL
Astoria

Other ports profit

One of the reasons I ran for Port of Astoria commissioner several years ago was to bring business to the Port. Two studies by Oregon State University had pointed out the improbability of shipping at the Port of Astoria. It is my belief that fishing can be depended on. The ocean will always produce something; maybe not what is produced now, but something.

Bill Cook had shown me the potential for a vessel haul-out and boatyard. I also knew Jon Englund was looking for a place to expand his business. Since as a Sea Grant agent I worked closely with fisheries, I knew the idea that ocean fisheries were in decline was not the full story.

It took some time to prepare for the haul-out and boatyard. The building at Pier 3 had to be demolished, and money to buy the haul-out machine and construct the facilities had to be found. Part of that came from the sale of a very large crane that had been purchased to load containers. We also went through a public process to make sure the boatyard would be accepted by the community.

Surveys were done to make sure there would be enough business to make it profitable. Commissioners visited booming boatyards with haul-outs in Port Townsend, Seattle and Olympia, Wash. Research was done to insure treatment of wash water that cleaned boat bottoms when they were pulled from the wa-

ter. There were plans to purchase a second machine to haul even larger vessels. Future plans included a building for sport boat storage west of the boatyard, and a survey of up-river boaters showed large demand for such a facility. It would also serve to break the wind that comes from the southwest.

The boatyard became a profitable business, especially with tuna boats that often needed a quick haul-out during the season. If they had to wait for a traditional railway haul-out they could miss a profitable bite.

With a change in commissioners the boatyard was given a lower importance. There was no advertisement of the facilities and upkeep was neglected. Promises made to clients of the Port were forgotten. Now it looks like other ports are benefiting from the situation and are expanding their boatyards. Why is this Port commission not focused on making the boatyard all it was intended to become?

JIM BERGERON
Astoria