

THE DAILY ASTORIAN

Founded in 1873



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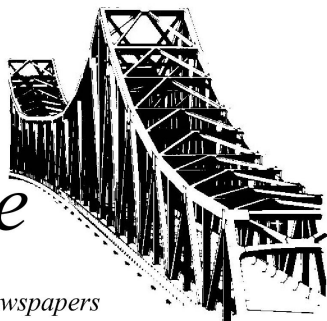
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Water under the bridge



Compiled by Bob Duke

From the pages of Astoria's daily newspapers

10 years ago this week — 2005

"Is he in there?"

Samantha Hall clutched a DVD of "The Goonies," bounced on her toes and peered across a driveway at the Astoria house made famous by the 1985 movie.

She was waiting for Jeff B. Cohen, who as the chubby and klutzy Chunk had danced the Truffle Shuffle only a few feet away, to come out of the house and say hi.

"He's right there, Captain Chunk is right there!" said the 18-year-old from Washougal, Wash., as Cohen stepped onto the porch. "This is a dream come true. It's the Goonies, the Goonies!"

It's not just abundant rain and a large contingent of environmentalists that make Astoria green. It's also the lush, tree-covered hillsides that comprise the city's urban forest. Those wooded acres, crisscrossed with trails known mainly to local residents, are now being studied and mapped as part of developing an Astoria Trails Master Plan. Interest in the project is high.

Surprise was definitely not in Seth Wendzel's plans as he attended Astoria High School's annual awards evening. On Thursday, though, a surprise was exactly what Wendzel got.

Astoria High School Scholarships, Inc., gave away its millionth dollar in scholarship money, in the form of a \$7,000 package to Wendzel.

As his name was read, a whistle blew, stopping the ceremony momentarily, and Wendzel was given balloons, which he placed on the top of his graduation cap for the rest of the night to celebrate the honor.

50 years ago — 1965

A citizens' committee now has recommended that the Port of Astoria divest itself of the West End boat basin and concentrate its money and efforts on development of the East End basin.

This recommendation contradicts that of the engineering firm of Cornell, Howland, Hayes and Merryfield which the port commission engaged recently to study the problem.

Now the port commission is back in the same old dilemma of trying to determine which basin to abandon, the same dilemma that has puzzled it for more than a decade.

A railroad box car crashed through a retaining wall at Port Plywood company Monday afternoon and badly damaged sawing equipment.

A spokesman for the company said Port Plywood suspended operations until repairs are made. Fifty-six men were involved in the layoff.

A joint Portland-Astoria mission to the Department of Commerce began moving to Washington Wednesday afternoon, armed with verbal and written protest against closure of the Astoria reserve fleet base of the U.S. Maritime Administration.

The Job-Corps Center enrollment has attained the 600 mark, halfway to the full 1250 the center is designed to handle.

We can begin to get an indication of what the impact on the community is going to be.

The economic benefit seems apparent. Astoria is bustling more than in years, the need for housing is great, and merchants are too busy to grumble about how bad business is. Much of this activity undoubtedly stems from the increase of people and purchasing that the Job Corps has brought to town.

75 years ago — 1940

Astoria's representation in Portland's Rose Festival parade yesterday was an impressive one, according to residents of the city who returned from watching the big spectacle.

In the parade representing this city were the Anchor Girls drum corps, royal Chinooks marching club, and a float decorated with flowers advertising Astoria's Regatta and displaying Queen Jean Pauling, Princesses Bernice Franetovich, Myrtle Jensen, Jane Spalding and Esther Kuivala.



Downtown Astoria, in a pre-World War II photo.

Miss Gwen LaBarre, supervisor of physical education in the city school system and head of the summer playground program for the city, said today 530 different children registered during the first week the city's five playgrounds were in operation. She said average daily attendance was 400.

ROME — Premier Benito Mussolini took Italy's 45,000,000 people into the European war today in a climactic bid for a new Roman empire around the Mediterranean.

Declaring war on Great Britain and France, the fascist premier told a madly cheering throng before Venice palace that Italian forces are marching with Germany to "break the chain" that bind her in the Mediterranean and to obtain free access to the sea at Suez and Gibraltar.

When the new shore base bill is approved in congress, the navy's Tongue Point, Ore., base will become a \$3,500,000 project.

An authorization of \$2,000,000 additional for the Tongue Point station was included in the recently approved shore base bill, which added to the \$1,500,000 initial authorization for the project.

An estimated seven or eight thousand people Friday night saw the biggest Flag day celebration parade here in many years.

Starting from the court house, the parade, composed of nearly 40 organizations, marched up Commercial Street to the Recreation Center between rows of spectators. Four musical divisions furnished music for the parade, which stretched more than half a mile.

Flight attendants dazzle in Rose Festival parade

AS MY WIFE AND I watched the Rose Festival parade in Portland last Saturday morning, I remembered the 1970s, a period when the Rose Festival was languishing.

Oblivious to the Grand Floral Parade, a few of us who lived in a small apartment house on 10th Avenue, below Portland State University, heard a marching band playing a few blocks away. We walked down 10th to the Central Library, where we watched from its front steps. These days, of course, spectators claim their street positions in early morning.

The evidence of free speech preceding this year's parade was eye-catching. A group of homeless people carrying a banner and megaphone went by, decrying Mayor Charlie Hales' policy of sweeping up the homeless. Several minutes later a man dressed in a black suit, carrying a Bible, harangued the crowd as he walked. Next to him was a man bearing a sign: "Repent or Perish."

The Portland Police received only a smattering of applause, while the city's firemen were greeted warmly. Mayor Hales got little recognition; Gov. Kate Brown, riding with former Gov. Barbara Roberts, received a healthy response. The U.S. Navy got big applause.

My favorite marching unit was Alaska Airlines flight attendants towing suitcases. They did minor dance numbers and drills.

As I was remembering the parade we watched around 1974, a float and walking group from Oregon's Vietnamese community went by. If you had told us in the mid-'70s that 40 years hence this group of Vietnamese immigrants would march in the Portland Rose Festival Parade, we would have been incredulous.

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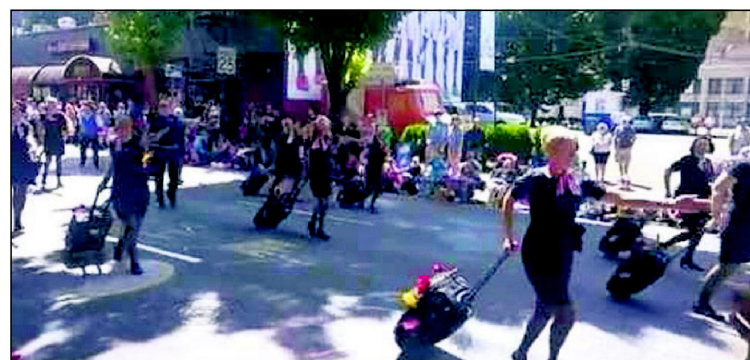
OREGON IS A SMALL TOWN. After watching the Prefontaine Classic track meet at Hayward Field on a recent Saturday, I learned that many of these international athletes stayed at the

"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



Shengying Xu — YouTube screenshot of Alaska Airlines flight attendants at the Rose Festival parade in Portland in 2014.

Portland Airport Sheraton Hotel prior to flying out on Monday. Their massive departure to catch flights to track meets in Europe and beyond taxed the hotel's chief bellman, Roger Guettich. He told my wife about the challenging amount of equipment these athletes carried. Unlike sports teams that move through the hotel, these athletes had no equipment handlers. It was a taxing morning at the Sheraton.

Concerts did the same thing for classical music.

The longest running continuous radio concert series is the Saturday Metropolitan Opera broadcast. It began in the 1930s. Americans far from New York City gained exposure to opera through the broadcasts. At mid-century the broadcasts moved into Canada and then abroad.

Here in Astoria, one of the Liberty Theater's most important missions is education. When local school children see performances at the Liberty, it is often their first exposure to live entertainment.

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EXPOSING young people to music is one of the most important things the arts world can do for itself.

station KMHD recently aired a vivid example of the phenomenon. A jazz musician, speaking on the station's own show "A Jazz Life," recounted his aunt's taking him to the Hollywood Bowl to hear Ella Fitzgerald. The young man had never been to a concert. Fitzgerald's magic converted him on the spot.

My father told me about hearing Duke Ellington in New York City while on shore leave from his Liberty ship, the S.S. Edward Bellamy, during World War II. It was a magic moment and eventually brought jazz LPs into our Pendleton home.

For a generation of Americans, Leonard Bernstein's Young People's

IF YOU LIKE BLUES, R&B and funk, I have the radio show for you. A guy named Cooky Parker hosts "Friday Flashback" on Portland's KMHD at 6 pm on Fridays. Parker's specialty is obscure artists who did great stuff. He shops Portland's many record stores that sell vinyl. On one recent show Parker only played 45s that he'd found around the city that day. You can hear the show online at opb.org/kmhd.

—S.A.F.



Heroin doesn't have to be a killer

By NICHOLAS KRISTOF
New York Times News Service

It's a subject we find hard to talk about, even though it kills more people in America than guns or cars and claims more lives than murder or suicide.

I'm talking about drug overdoses, taking close to 44,000 lives a year. These often follow a pipeline from prescription painkillers to heroin — a result, in part, of reckless marketing by pharmaceutical companies and overprescribing by doctors. These days, heroin is out of control, with deaths nearly tripling in three years.

To understand the lure of heroin and how to combat it, I came to Baltimore to talk to some experts: addicts.

"A guy was like, 'try this, it'll make you feel good,'" recalled Ricky Morris, who has struggled for years with heroin. "And it did make me feel good. It makes you feel superhuman. You can have sex all night long."

Yet, after a while, Morris was waking up sick each day and needed heroin simply to feel better. To finance his habit, Morris says, he sold drugs and robbed people: "I started becoming the people I despised."

Even when he overdosed and nearly died, he continued. After watching his brother overdose and die, Morris was shaken and vowed he wouldn't take heroin on the day of the funeral out of respect. But the next morning he was so sick that he promptly began searching for a hit.

Now Morris is on methadone, a

drug that replaces heroin, and with it he has avoided heroin for four years. But, he adds, it's a constant struggle: "I'm still trying to take it one day at a time."

Every year I hold a "win-a-trip" contest to take a university student with me on a reporting trip to examine problems in the developing world. This fall I'll be traveling with this year's winner, Austin Meyer of Stanford University, to India and Nepal, but I thought we should first look at social problems at home. So we're here in Baltimore, talking to addicts.

Baltimore is aggressively trying to reduce heroin deaths through an outreach program overseen by its health commissioner, Dr. Leana Wen. And as it happens, Wen was my win-a-trip winner in 2007. We traveled to Congo, Burundi and Rwanda.

"Heroin is actually the underlying problem behind so many issues in Baltimore," Wen told me. "It's why people can't find employment, why people go to jail, why people don't get educated. People lose their whole families because of heroin."

Heroin isn't a new challenge.

But it seemed under control, and then, beginning in the mid-1990s, pharmaceutical companies began promoting opioids as pain relievers. This aggressive marketing resulted in huge profits for the companies but was sometimes reckless, deceptive and criminal. For instance, top executives of Purdue Pharma, which made OxyContin, pleaded guilty in 2007 to criminal charges for their role in deceptive marketing that downplayed the risk of abuse.



Nicholas Kristof

By 2012, health care providers wrote 259 million prescriptions for opioid painkillers — enough for a bottle of pills for every American adult.

Many Americans, often military veterans, get hooked on pills, and then, unable to afford prescription painkillers, turn to heroin as a much cheaper alternative. We talk about personal irresponsibility as a factor in drug abuse, and that's real; so is corporate irresponsibility.

What do we do now? Unfortunately, some education programs to keep people off drugs haven't worked well in careful studies. Treatment, using methadone and suboxone, does help and is worth expanding — although that, in turn, means reducing the stigma of addiction so that more people seek medical help.

Some conservative politicians oppose needle exchanges, fearing that they legitimize drug use. But evidence is strong that needle exchanges reduce the spread of HIV and hepatitis, saving lives. We can also try harder to save the lives of those who overdose. Pharmaceuticals can also be lifesavers, and a drug called naloxone revives people almost immediately.

"There's nothing like it in medicine," says Wen, who, as an emergency-room physician, has used it on many patients. "It's a complete antidote that acts immediately."

Some cities are giving naloxone to police officers so they can save lives when they come across people who have overdosed, and Baltimore is going a step further to get it into the hands of people at particular risk of overdose. It trains jail inmates in using naloxone, and I also accompanied Baltimore health workers as they gave dancers at strip clubs naloxone and taught them how to administer it.

"This is great to know," said one exotic dancer, clutching her naloxone after the training session. "I'll be sure to send the other girls."